Current Affairs

October - 2019

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NATIONAL NEWS

October 1
1. Which state has emerged at the top with 76.6% in the first edition of School Education Quality Index (SEQI) 2019?
   Answer: Kerala
   Explanation:
   - A policy think tank of the Government of India (GoI), NITI Aayog, has released its first edition of School Education Quality Index (SEQI) 2019 with the aim to evaluate the performance of States and Union Territories (UTs) in the school education sector with the reference year 2016-17.
   - As per the Index, Kerala has emerged at the top with 76.6%, Uttar Pradesh ranked at the bottom with 36.4%.
   Related News
   - NITI Aayog Formed: 1 January 2015.
   - NITI Aayog Headquarters: Delhi

October 2
1. Which ministry organized first National Nutrition Survey in India?
   Answer: Health and Family Welfare
   Explanation:
   - The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare organized first National Nutrition Survey. The ministry took help from UNICEF to complete the survey. The survey was conducted between 2016 and 2018.
   - In India, for the first time the ministry measured malnutrition that included micro nutrient deficiencies.
   Related News
   - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Founded: 1976
   - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Headquarters: New Delhi

2. Who inaugurated the Delhi-Meerut Package-3 connecting Dasna in Ghaziabad to Hapur?
   Answer: Nitin Gadkari
   Explanation:
   - Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the Delhi-Meerut Package-3 connecting Dasna in Ghaziabad to Hapur.
   - It is a 22 kilometre-long stretch built with a cost of Rs.1989 crore.
   Related News
   - Ministry for Road Transport and Highways Formed July 1942.
   - MoRTH Headquarters Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi

October 3
1. What is the full form of SLNP?
   Answer: Street Light National Programme
Explanation :
- On **October 1, 2019 India has achieved one-crore LED** (Light Emitting Diode) street light mark with the 1croreth LED street light switched on by union **Power Minister R K Singh** by a remote switch.
- The lightings are installed under **Street Light National Programme (SLNP)** implemented by state-owned Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) and are to achieve **1.34 crore LED street lights installation by March 2020.**

**Related Keys**
- SLNP Launched- 2015.
- The SNLP is the World’s largest street light replacement programme

2. Which district administration has launched a campaign ‘Plants for Plastic’?
**Answer : Bongaigaon**

**Explanation :**
- In **Assam**, in order to gradually **collect and remove the harmful plastics** from the eco- system **Bongaigaon District** administration has launched a campaign ‘Plants for Plastic’. The campaign aims to encourage people to collect and remove plastic from their houses, commercial establishments and educational institutions.
- Under this unique initiative, any person can deposit **one kilogram plastic** in the Municipality office and get a valuable sapling for free.

3. How many railway stations of Rajasthan have topped the Railway Cleanliness Survey 2019?
**Answer : Three**

**Explanation :**
- The three railway station of Rajasthan Jaipur, Jodhpur and Durgapura have **topped the Railway Cleanliness Survey 2019**, conducted at 720 railway stations by the Ministry of Railways.

**Related Keys:**
- Ministry of Railways Headquarters: New Delhi
- Ministry of Railways Founded: 16 April 1853
- Ministry of Railways Union Minister: Piyush Goyal

**October 4**
1. What is the name of the joint military exercise held between India and Kazakhstan in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand?
**Answer : KAZIND-2019**

**Explanation :**
- **4th edition of KAZIND-2019**, the joint military exercise between India and Kazakhstan commenced in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand on October 2, 2019, which will continue till October 15, 2019 with the involvement of **100 soldiers from both the armies**. It aims to carry out counter-terrorism operations in hilly areas.

**Related News**
- Kazakhstan Capital: Astana.
2. Who flagged off second Vande Bharat Express train from New Delhi railway station?
Answer: Amit Shah
Explanation:
- On October 3, 2019, Union Home Minister Mr Amit Shah flagged off second Vande Bharat Express train from New Delhi railway station. It runs between Delhi and Katra (Shri Mata Vaishno Devi), Jammu and Kashmir at a maximum speed of 130 km/hour and will cover the distance in 8 hours, reducing the travel time by 4 hours.
- It will halt at Ambala Cantt, Ludhiana and Jammu Tawi for 2 minutes each.
- Related News
- The first Vande Bharat Express train runs between Delhi and Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- It is flagged off by Prime minister Modi.

3. What is the name of the public awareness campaign launched by Trivendra Singh Rawat to stop the electricity theft?
Answer: Uragiri
Explanation:
- On October 2, 2019, The Chief Minister (CM) of Uttarakhand, Trivendra Singh Rawat has launched a public awareness campaign called ‘Uragiri’ to stop the electricity theft and saving in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.
- Related News
- Uttarakhand Capital: Dehradun
- Uttarakhand Governor : Baby Rani Maurya

October 5
1. Which organization was redesignated as the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Priority Medical Devices and Health Technology Policy?
Answer: National Health Systems Resource Centre
Explanation:
- The National Health Systems Resource Centre (NHSRC) was redesignated as the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Priority Medical Devices and Health Technology Policy. It was announced by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) of Government of India in collaboration with the WHO.
- Related News
- NHSRC Established: 200
- NHSRC Chairperson: Ms. Preeti Sudan

2. Who launched the first of its kind Village Secretariat system at Karapa village?
Answer: Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy
Explanation:
- Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the
first of its kind village Secretariat system at Karapa village near Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.

- It has set up village and ward secretariats which act as a bridge between the government and the people by rendering over 500 types of services at their doorstep.
- Related News
  - Andhra Pradesh National Parks: Sri Venkateswara National Park, Rajiv Gandhi National Park, Papikonda National Park

October 6

1. Who approved the new policy for a new process of strategic disinvestment with a view to expedite privatisation of selected Public Sector Undertakings?

**Answer:** Narendra Modi

**Explanation:**
- The Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the new policy for a new process of strategic disinvestment with a view to expedite privatisation of selected Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).
- **Objective:** To streamline and speed up the process and reduce the role of administrative ministries.

**Related Keys:**
- Founded: 29 October 1946
- Minister In-Charge: Nirmala Sitharaman

2. National Health Authority partners with which organization to strengthen Ayushman Bharat scheme?

**Answer:** Google

**Explanation:**
- NHA and Google partners together to strengthen Ayushman Bharat scheme.
- On October 4, 2019, the National Health Authority (NHA) and the American multinational company, Google partnered together for strengthening the implementation of the national health protection scheme, Ayushman Bharat–Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY).

**Related Keys:**
- Chief Executive Officer (CEO)- Indu Bhushan.
- It is the world’s largest public funded health insurance scheme.

October 7

1. Which state emerged as the top state where the most cancer patients availed treatment under PMJAY with 40,056 cases?

**Answer:** Tamil Nadu

**Explanation:**
- The Union Health Ministry’s data showed that in its first year of the launch of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), the treatment of 90,000 cancer patients was funded through 1.8 lakh hospital admissions.
- Tamil Nadu emerged as the top state where the most cancer patients availed
treatment under PMJAY with 40,056 cases.

Related Keys
- PMJAY Launched on 23 September 2018.
- Launched by PM Narendra Modi

2. Who inaugurated the Global Conference-cum-expo on ‘Spirituality for Unity, Peace and Prosperity’ organized by Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya?
   **Answer:** Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu
   **Explanation:**
   - The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the Global Conference-cum-expo on ‘Spirituality for Unity, Peace and Prosperity’ organized by Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya at the Shantiyan Campus in Mount Abu, Rajasthan. It was held from September 28 to October 1, 2019.
   - Related Keys
     - Rajasthan Capital: Jaipur
     - Rajasthan Chief Minister: Ashok Gehlot
     - Rajasthan Governor: Kalraj Mishra

3. In which state the first e-waste clinic of India will be set up?
   **Answer:** Madhya Pradesh
   **Explanation:**
   - The first e-waste clinic of India will be set up in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have tied up to set up the clinic.
   - It will be formed in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
   - Related Keys
     - Madhya Pradesh CM – Kamal Nath
     - Madhya Pradesh Capital – Bhopal

4. Who flagged off one-month program ‘Pragati Rath’ of HDFC (Housing Development Finance Corporation) bank in Shimla?
   **Answer:** Jai Ram Thakur
   **Explanation:**
   - Related Keys
     - HDFC Founded: August 1994
     - HDFC Headquarters :Mumbai, Maharashtra
     - HDFC Managing Director: Aditya Puri

**October 8**
1. Who received the first of 36 Rafale fighter jets manufactured for India by France?
   **Answer:** Rajnath Singh
Explanation:
  o Union defence minister Rajnath Singh will embark on a two-day visit to France on Monday. During his visit, he will receive the first of 36 Rafale fighter jets manufactured for India.
  o On October 8, the defence minister is scheduled to meet the French President Emmanuel Macron

2. According to the past three CPCB reports, the number of polluted river stretches in the country increased to how many in 2018 from 302 in 2015?
   Answer: 351

Explanation:
  o Data from the past three CPCB reports, carrying water pollution monitoring figures on different stretches during 2002-17, shows that the number of polluted river stretches in the country increased from 121 in 2009 to 302 in 2015 and further to 351 in 2018.
  o Analysis of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data show that the 10 dirtiest river stretches in 2018 were found on river Vasishta (Tamil Nadu), Ghaggar (Haryana and Punjab), Bhadra (Gujarat), Mithi (Maharashtra), Sabarmati (Gujarat), Hindon (Uttar Pradesh) and Sutlej (Punjab), among others.

3. Who signed several MoUs with Bangladesh counterpart that included connectivity, trade, transport and defense?
   Answer: PM Modi

Explanation:
  o On 5th October PM Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart signed several MoUs that included connectivity, trade, transport and defense. The agreements include A Coastal Surveillance system
  o Standard Operating Procedure on the use of Chattogram and Mongola ports.

October 9

1. Who launched ‘Ganga Aamantran’ abhiyan, a month long open-water rafting and kayaking expedition in New Delhi?
   Answer: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

Explanation:
  o On October 7, 2019 the Union minister of Jal Shakti shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched ‘Ganga Aamantran’ abhiyan, a month long open-water rafting and kayaking expedition in New Delhi. The expedition which begins from October 10- November 11 2019, will cover an area of 25,000kms Devprayag in Uttarakhand to Ganga Sagar in West Bengal.

   Related News
   o Ministry of Jal Shakti Headquarters- New Delhi.

2. Who launched launched eco-friendly green firecrackers, manufactured in India?
   Answer: Dr Harsh Vardhan

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Explanation:
- On October 5, 2019 the Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan launched eco-friendly green firecrackers, manufactured in India and are also made available in markets for sellers and consumers. These green crackers were developed by the Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to combat air pollution.
- The CSIR-NEERI has developed new formulations for reduced emission of light and sound emitting in crackers with 30% reduction in particulate matter.

3. Who chaired the 19-member Inter-Ministerial Co-ordination Committee (IMCC) formed by government to check money laundering activities?
Answer: Mr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey
Explanation:
- The government formed a 19-member Inter-Ministerial Co-ordination Committee (IMCC) chaired by the revenue secretary Mr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey to check money laundering activities. It is set up as per the powers conferred under Section 72A of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002.

Related Keys
- Department of Revenue (DOR) Parent organization: Ministry of Finance
- Department of Revenue (DOR) Minister In-charge: Nirmala Sitharaman.

October 10
1. Who inaugurated e-Vidyabharti (tele-education) and e-ArogyaBharti (Tele-Medicine) projects for all the 54 African countries in New Delhi?
Answer: Shri Subrahmanyan Jaishankar
Explanation:
- On October 7, 2019 the External Affairs Minister (EAM) Shri Subrahmanyan Jaishankar inaugurated e-Vidyabharti (tele-education) and e-ArogyaBharti (Tele-Medicine) projects for all the 54 African countries in New Delhi on the 55th anniversary of Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) which is India’s flagship capacity building programme.

Related News
- ITEC covers 158 countries across Asia, Africa, Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, and several Pacific and Caribbean nations.

2. When will India’s first dedicated two long-haul special Boeing 777-300ER aircraft equipped with missile defence systems reach New Delhi?
Answer: June 2020
Explanation:
- India’s first dedicated two long-haul special Boeing 777-300ER aircraft equipped with missile defence systems that will serve Prime Minister Narendra Modi, President Ram Nath Kovind and Vice President Venkaiah Naidu is likely to reach New Delhi, India by June 2020.
- It will be kept under control by Indian Air force rather than Air India.
Related News

- Boeing Founded: July 15, 1916
- Headquarters: Chicago, U.S.

October 11

1. How many states and union territories (UTs) were penalized under National Health Mission (NHM) for their worst performances on various health parameters in 2018-19?
   Answer: 14
   Explanation:
   - On October 9, 2019, Health System Strengthening Conditionality Report of States 2018-19 was released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW). 14 states and union territories (UTs) were penalized under National Health Mission (NHM) for their worst performances on various health parameters in 2018-19.
   - Worst performed states: 14 states and UTs with Bihar, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Sikkim received penalty due to non-fulfilment of conditionality.

2. The 13th Conference of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare (CCHWF) for 2019 held in which place?
   Answer: New Delhi
   Explanation:

3. For whom Narendra Modi has released a stamp of Marshal of the Indian Air Force (IAF)?
   Answer: Arjan Singh
   Explanation:
   - On October 9, 2019, Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi has released a commemorative stamp of Marshal of the Indian Air Force (IAF) late Arjan Singh in honor of his exemplary service to our nation.
   - The stamp was issued at an event of ‘at home' programme of the IAF to mark its 87th raising day in New Delhi.

4. Indian PM Narendra Modi and China’s President Xi Jinping’s meeting held at which place?
   Answer: Mamallapuram
Explaination:
- Indian PM Narendra Modi and China's President Xi Jinping will be meeting in Tamil Nadu's historical seaside town of Mamallapuram. Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosts Chinese President Xi Jinping at Unesco world heritage site for the second bilateral informal summit on October 11-12.

October 12
1. Who released the National Blindness and Visually Impaired Survey 2019 in New Delhi?
   Answer: Dr. Harsh Vardhan
   Explanation:
   - On October 10, 2019 Union health minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan released the National Blindness and Visually Impaired Survey 2019 in New Delhi marking the occasion of World Sight Day. The survey was conducted from 2015-2019 by the health ministry in collaboration with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)- RP (Rajendra Prasad) Eye Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences across 24 states and Union Territories(UT). Around 1.11 lakh people were tested during the survey.
   Related Keys
   - Health Ministry Headquarters: New Delhi.

2. What is the name of the mobile app launched by Indian Railways to register passengers’ complaints online?
   Answer: Sahyatri
   Explanation:
   - The Indian Railways launched a Sahyatri mobile app and a website www.railways.delhipolice.gov.in through which the passengers can register their complaints online. It was launched by Union Minister of State (MoS) in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Mr Nityanand Rai at the NDMC (New Delhi Municipal Council) Convention Centre on Sansad Marg, New Delhi.
   Related Keys
   - Indian Railways Founded: 8 May 1845
   - Indian Railways Headquarters: New Delhi
   - Indian Railways Chairman of Railway board: Vinod Kumar Yadav

3. Under which scheme Rajasthan state government has increased the unemployment allowance for transgenders to Rs 3,500 per month?
   Answer: Mukhyamantri Yuva Sambal Yojna
   Explanation:
   - Under the Mukhyamantri Yuva Sambal Yojna, the Rajasthan state government has increased the unemployment allowance for transgenders in the state to Rs 3,500 from Rs 3,000 per month.
   - The eligible candidate for the transgender category should be a graduate degree holder from any university established by law located in the state.
   Related News
   - Rajasthan Capital: Jaipur
October 13
1. At which place the 2nd edition of Indian Navy(IN) –Bangladesh Navy(BN) Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) 2019 held?
   Answer: Northern Bay of Bengal
   Explanation:
   - The 2nd edition of Indian Navy(IN) –Bangladesh Navy(BN) Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) 2019 has been held in Northern Bay of Bengal from October 10-11, 2019 with the participation of INS (Indian Naval Ship) Ranvijay, a guided-missile destroyer and INS Kuthar, an indigenously built missile as well as BNS (Bangladesh Naval Ship) Ali Haider, a Type 053 frigate and BNS Shadhinota, a Type 056 stealth guided missile corvette.
   Related Keys:
   - Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka
   - Bangladesh Currency: Bangladeshi taka
   - Bangladesh Prime minister: Sheikh Hasina

2. At which place India’s 1st ‘Garbage Cafe’ situated ?
   Answer: Ambikapur
   Explanation:
   - On October 10, 2019, Chhattisgarh state Health Minister T S Singh Deo has inaugurated India’s 1st ‘Garbage Cafe’ situated in Ambikapur of Surguja district. The concept of this cafe is that rag pickers and the homeless will collect plastic waste, and in return, the municipal corporation will offer them food.
   - Ambikapur has clicked the title of the 2nd cleanest city in India after Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
   Related Keys:
   - Chhattisgarh Capital: Raipur
   - Chhattisgarh Governor: Anusuiya Uikey
   - Chhattisgarh Chief Minister: Bhupesh Bagel

October 14
1. What is the deadline to generate 175 GW renewable energy in India?
   Answer: 2022
   Explanation:
   - Deadline to generate 175 GW renewable energy by 2022 in the country:
     - MNRE
   - As per the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), the target date for achieving the cumulative 175 GW (gigawatt) renewable power installed capacity is December 31, 2022, with 100 GW of solar, 60 GW of wind, 10 GW of bio-power and 5 GW of small hydro power.
   Related Keys:
   - MNRE Formed :1992
   - MNRE Headquarters :New Delhi, India
MNRE Minister responsible: Raj Kumar Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge)

2. What is the name of the 2nd joint military exercise held between India and Japan?
   Answer: Dharma Guardian-2019
   Explanation:
   - The 2nd joint military exercise ‘Dharma Guardian-2019’ to promote military cooperation between India and Japan will be held in Mizoram.
   - The event is being held from 19, October- 2, November 2019 at Counter Insurgency Warfare School located in Vairengte, Mizoram.
   Related Keys:
   - Indian Army Motto: “Service Before Self”
   - Indian Army Founded: 1 April 1895
   - Indian Army Headquarters: New Delhi

October 15
1. Which organization will rank state capitals and 100 smart cities in the coming 3 months for quality tap water?
   Answer: Bureau of Indian Standards
   Explanation:
   - On October 14, 2019, on the event of World Standards Day, Consumer Affairs Minister Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan notified that the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) will rank state capitals and 100 smart cities in the coming 3 months for quality tap water.
   - Quality of tap water at district level will also be tested in the next 6 months.

October 16
1. Who inaugurated conference on ‘One Nation One Tag – FASTag’ in New Delhi?
   Answer: Shri Nitin Gadkari
   Explanation:
   - On October 14, 2019 the union minister of Road Transport & Highways and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated conference on ‘One Nation One Tag – FASTag’ in New Delhi for rolling out usage of unified electronic system in the country.

October 17
1. Who inaugurated the 41st DRDO Directors Conference in New Delhi?
   Answer: Rajnath Singh
   Explanation:
   - Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 41st DRDO Directors Conference in New Delhi. He said that DRDO has played a significant role in ensuring the technological advancement of our forces and safeguarding our country.
   - Chiefs of the three forces & DRDO Chairman G Satheesh Reddy were also present on the occasion.
   Related keys
2. Who launched 'YSR Rythu Bharosa - PM KISAN' in Nellore?
Answer: YS Jaganmohan Reddy
Explanation:
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy launched 'YSR Rythu Bharosa - PM KISAN' in Nellore. Under the scheme, the state government will give input subsidy of Rs 13,500 to farmers in the state. Out of the amount, The Centre will be contributing Rs 6000 under PM KISAN Yojana.
- The state government will credit Rs 7500 in May, Rs 4000 in October and Rs 2000 in January.
Related keys
- PM Kisan Established - 1 February 2019
- Budget - 75,000 crore (US$11 billion)

3. What is the full form of SAFAR?
Answer: System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research
Explanation:
- Air quality in Delhi remains 'very poor' at overall Air Quality Index of 312. The highest concentration of pollutant particles was recorded in central Delhi with Chandni Chowk clocking AQI of PM10 at 297 and PM2.5 at 339.
- This was closely followed by Delhi University where monitoring systems installed by System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research (SAFAR)
Related keys
- Delhi CM - Arvind Kejriwal
- Delhi Governor - Anil Baijal

October 18
1. To which country India will gift 75,000 metric tonnes of wheat in November as announced by Ambassador Vinay Kumar?
Answer: Afghanistan
Explanation:
- India will gift 75,000 metric tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan in November as announced by Ambassador Vinay Kumar. The Indian envoy made these announcements while speaking at the 37th anniversary of the Afghan Red Crescent Society's (ARCS) Special Week.
- The Indian government has supplied 1.1 million tonnes of wheat for the people of Afghanistan on a grant basis.
Related Keys
- Afghanistan Capital - Kabul.
- Afghanistan President - Ashraf Ghani

2. Which tunnel will be renamed after Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder Shyama Prasad
Mukherjee?
Answer: Chenani-Nashri
Explanation:
- The Chenani-Nashri tunnel, the longest tunnel in Jammu and Kashmir, will be renamed after Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder Shyama Prasad Mukherjee.
- The 9.2-kilometre-long tunnel was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2017.
Related Keys
- Jammu and Kashmir Capital - Jammu (Winter), Srinagar (Summer)
- Governor - Satya pal Malik

3. Under which programme Indian Army has begun to digitize its official records?
Answer: OASIS
Explanation:
- The Indian Army has begun to digitize its official records under its new programme called “OASIS” - Officers Automated Structures Information System. Under the programme, the records of the army officers are to be digitized.
- The software is to be hosted in the Army’s intranet.
Related Keys
- Indian Army Founded on 1 April 1895
- Indian Army Headquarters - New Delhi

October 1
1. Which state has topped the first-ever innovation ranking of states according to the report released by Niti Aayog?
Answer: Karnataka
Explanation:
- Karnataka has topped the first-ever innovation ranking of states, followed by Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. The report was released by Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar and Chief Executive Officer Amitabh Kant.
Related Keys
- Karnataka formed on 1 November 1956
- Karnataka was originally known as the State of Mysore, it was renamed Karnataka in 1973.

2. What is the name of the bilateral joint exercise held between Indian Air Force and Royal Air Force Oman?
Answer: EX EASTERN BRIDGE-V
Explanation:
- Indian Air Force (IAF) kick started its bilateral joint exercise with Royal Air Force Oman (RAFO), named 'EX EASTERN BRIDGE-V' at Air Force Base Masirah. The IAF contingent comprises of Mig 29 UPG (upgrade) combat aircraft along with C-17 Globemaster transport aircraft.
- Last time, the bilateral exercise was held in 2017 at Jammargar.
3. Which state government has launched a scheme called ‘YSR Navodayam’ to bail out micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the State and provide them financial relief?
   Answer: Andhra Pradesh
   Explanation:
   - The Andhra Pradesh Government has launched a scheme called ‘YSR Navodayam’. The scheme aims to bail out micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the State and provide them financial relief by restructuring their bank loans before March 31, 2020.
   - Under the scheme, about 80,000 MSMEs in the State would be benefited as their bank loans, that are subject to a ceiling of Rs 25 crores, would be restructured.

October 20
1. At which place the 1st edition of Asia Health – 2019 conference held?
   Answer: New Delhi
   Explanation:
   - The 1st edition of Asia Health – 2019 conference with the theme Serving the World’s Fastest Growing Region through Healthcare Convergence, organized jointly by the National Health Authority and CII (Confederation of Indian Industry) held in New Delhi from 16 – 19 October 2019 with the aim to bring multiple stakeholders together to discuss the future of Health.
   - Related keys
     - CII Formation: 1895
     - CII Headquarters: New Delhi
     - CII President: Vikram Kirloskar

2. Which country will host the 91st International Criminal Police organization (Interpol) General Assembly in 2022?
   Answer: India
   Explanation:
   - India will host the 91st International Criminal Police organization (Interpol) General Assembly in 2022.
   - The proposal was made by Union Home Minister Amit Shah to the Interpol Secretary General Jürgen Stock during a meeting in New Delhi during Mr. Stock’s official visit in August 2019.
   - Related Keys
     - Interpol Motto: Connecting police for a safer world
     - Interpol Established: 1923 (As International Criminal Police Commission)
     - Interpol Renamed as Interpol: 1956
     - Interpol Headquarters: Lyon, France

October 21
1. Who has been appointed as Director-General of the National Security Guard (NSG)?
   Answer: Anup Kumar Singh
   Explanation: 

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o Senior IPS officer of Gujarat cadre Anup Kumar Singh has been appointed as Director-General of the National Security Guard (NSG). The appointment of Mr Singh, who is a 1985-batch IPS officer, was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

o His appointment will be from the date of joining the post and up to 30th of September, 2020.

2. Which state celebrates Bali Jatra trade fair?
Answer: Odisha
Explanation:

o Bali Jatra, one of the biggest trade fairs of Odisha, is scheduled to begin on 12 November 2019. The trade fair will continue for 8 days and this year’s Balijatra will be jointly organized by Cuttack District Administration, Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC) and District Cultural Council.

October 22

1. Two-day G20 Okayama Health Ministers’ Conference held in which country?
Answer: Japan
Explanation:

o India has highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s vision of ‘Sab Ka Saath – Sab Ka Vikas – Sab Ka Vishwas’ for inclusive health along with scheme — Ayushman Bharat, at the on-going two-day G20 Okayama Health Ministers’ Conference in Japan.

Related Keys

o Ayushman Bharath Launched on 23 September 2018.

o Ayushman Bharath Launched by Pm Modi.

o Ayushman Bharath CEO - Indu Bhushan.

2. Who will attend the inaugural ceremony of Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu bridge?
Answer: Rajnath Singh
Explanation:

o Defence Minister Rajnath Singh left for Ladakh. He will attend the inaugural ceremony of Col. Chewang Rinchen Setu which has been constructed at an altitude of 14,650 feet in the forward area of Ladakh region.

o This bridge has been built by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO).

Related Keys

o Ladakh is proposed as a union territory from October 31 2019.

October 23

1. Goa Government joined with which organization to generate employment opportunities in Goa?
Answer: Khadi and Village Industries Commission
Explanation:

o The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) joined hands with the Goa Government to generate employment opportunities in Goa. They inaugurated a series of initiatives.
Electric potter wheels to 160 families were distributed. New Model Spinning wheels to 50 trained women were also distributed. There were no spinning and weaving activities in Goa earlier.

Related Keys
- The Khadi and Village Industries Commission Headquarters: Mumbai

2. Which organization has launched its cinema ad campaign ‘Feed Our Future’ against hunger and malnutrition in India?
Answer: United Nations World Food Programme
Explanation:
- United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has launched its cinema ad campaign ‘Feed Our Future’ against hunger and malnutrition in India. It has been launched by WFP in collaboration with UFO Movies – India’s largest in-cinema advertising platform and SAWA - the Global Cinema Advertising Association.
- Related Keys
  - World Food Programme Formation - 19 December 1961
  - World Food Programme Headquarters - Rome, Italy

3. Which state government decided that no Government jobs will be provided to persons with more than 2 Children after 1 January 2021?
Answer: Assam
Explanation:
- On October 21, 2019, the Assam Cabinet decided that no Government jobs will be provided to persons with more than 2 Children after 1 January 2021. In September 2017, the Assam government had passed the “Population and Women Empowerment Policy of Assam”.
- Related Keys
  - Assam Chief Minister: Sarbananda Sonowal
  - Assam Capital: Dispur
  - Assam Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

October 24
1. At which place the two-day India-Bangladesh Stakeholder’s Meeting started?
Answer: Guwahati
Explanation:
- The two-day India-Bangladesh Stakeholder’s Meeting started in Guwahati with a focus on trade and connectivity. The focus is on improving its connectivity with the neighbouring country to get the best of the rest under Act East Policy for the host Assam.
- A 70-member delegation from Bangladesh is participating in the meet, while a similar top-level team will represent the host nation.
- Related Keys
  - Bangladesh Capital – Dhaka
  - Bangladesh President - Sheikh Hasina

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2. Who lead the Indian delegation at 18th Summit of Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)?
   **Answer:** M. Venkaiah Naidu
   **Explanation:**
   - **Vice President, M. Venkaiah Naidu** will lead the Indian delegation at 18th Summit of Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). The summit will be held at Baku, Azerbaijan on 25 to 26 October 2019.
   - **Theme of the summit** ‘Upholding the Bandung Principles to ensure concerted and adequate response to the challenges of the contemporary world’.
   **Related Keys**
   - Azerbaijan Capital – Baku
   - Azerbaijan President - Ilham Aliyev
   - Azerbaijan Currency - Azerbaijani manat

3. At which Railway Junction Indian Railways has installed the most advanced Electronic Interlocking System?
   **Answer:** Tundla
   **Explanation:**
   - **Indian Railways** has installed the most advanced Electronic Interlocking System on the Grand Chord route, one of the busiest section of railways. This most advanced and safer Electronic Interlocking System was installed at Tundla Junction in Uttar Pradesh by railways as part of upgradation process.
   **Related News**
   - Indian Railways established on 8 May 1845
   - Railway Minister of India Piyush Goyal

**October 25**

1. The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with which bank to offer a number of services?
   **Answer:** Federal Bank
   **Explanation:**
   - The **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)** signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Federal Bank** to offer a number of services.
   - This services includes the transfer of funding through GeM Pool Accounts (GPA), advising of Performance Bank Guarantees (e-PBG) and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) to the registered users on the portal.
   **Related Keys**
   - Federal Bank established on 23 April 1931
   - Federal Bank Headquarters – Aluva

2. What is the name of the platform launched by National Cyber Security Coordinator’s office in partnership with Data Security Council of India (DSCI)?
   **Answer:** TechSagar
Explanation:
- National Cyber Security Coordinator’s office in partnership with Data Security Council of India (DSCI) launched a platform called ‘TechSagar’.
- It is a platform to discover consolidated and comprehensive repository of India’s cyber technological capabilities through a portal.

Related Keys
- Data Security Council of India Founded: August 2008
- Data Security Council of India Headquarters: Noida

October 26
1. Which state government launched its flagship scheme Kanya Sumangla Yojna?
   Answer: Uttar Pradesh
   Explanation:
   - Uttar Pradesh government launched its flagship scheme Kanya Sumangla Yojna. The scheme will provide an amount of 15 thousand rupees in a phased manner to every family in which a girl child takes birth.
   - The scheme has been designed in a way that parents have to take care of the girl child’s health and education to get the benefit.

   Related Keys
   - Uttar Pradesh CM - Yogi Adityanath
   - Uttar Pradesh Capital – Lucknow

2. What is the name of the report submitted to to Dr Jitendra Singh on Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh after setting aside of Article 370 & 35A?
   Answer: Report from Ground Zero
   Explanation:
   - A delegation of Group of Intellectuals and Academicians (GIA) presented a ‘Report from Ground Zero’ on Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh after setting aside of Article 370 & 35A to Dr Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (MoS) in PMO.

   Related Keys
   - Jammu & Kashmir Governor: Satya Pal Malik
   - Jammu & Kashmir Capital: Jammu (Winter), Srinagar (Summer)

October 27
1. Who attend the third session of Future Investment Initiative Forum in Saudi Arabia?
   Answer: Narendra Modi
   Explanation:
   - On October 29, 2019, the Prime Minister Modi is to attend the third session of Future Investment Initiative Forum in Saudi Arabia. The PM will deliver a keynote address at the forum.
   - He will also meet the Saudi king Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

2. Which two organizations accorded with ‘Maharatna’ status by Government of India?
   Answer: Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and Power Grid Corporation
   Explanation:
October 28
1. Who said although the air quality is predicted to be touching SEVERE levels in the wee hours on October 28 but the peak level of particulate matter (PM) 2.5 is likely to be lowest,”?

Answer: SAFAR

Explanation:
- According to the System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting And Research (SAFAR) the overall air quality of the national capital is in the higher-end of ‘very poor’ category today.
- “Although the air quality is predicted to be touching SEVERE levels in the wee hours on October 28 but the peak level of particulate matter (PM) 2.5 is likely to be lowest,” said SAFAR.

Related Keys:
- SAFAR launched by Union Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)
- SAFAR first launched in Delhi in 2010

October 29
1. Who organized third and largest Deepotsav in Ayodhya?

Answer: Yogi Adityanath

Explanation:
- On October 26, 2019, in the city of Ayodhya 4 lakh earthen lamps were lit along the banks of Sarayu river. The event was organized by the Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath. It was the third and largest Deepotsav in Ayodhya after he came to power. Last year around 3 lakh lamps were lit.

Related Keys
- Uttar Pradesh Capital - Lucknow
- Uttar Pradesh Governor - Anandiben Patel

2. Which delegation visited Kashmir on October 29, 2019 and to check on the reality of the situation in Kashmir?

Answer: European Union

Explanation:
- A 28-member delegation from European Union met PM Modi on October 28, 2019. The delegation will visit Kashmir on October 29, 2019. The delegation is to check on the reality of the situation in Kashmir.
- This is the first trip to the region by a foreign delegation after India revoked Article 370 and integrated Kashmir with the rest of the country. India rejected
US plea to visit the region earlier in October.

**Related Keys**
- European Union Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium.
- The European Union is a political and economic union of 28 member states that are located primarily in Europe.

3. Who has approved issuance of two Open General Export Licences (OGELs) for export of certain parts and components as well as intra-company transfer of technology to select countries?

**Answer:** Rajnath Singh

**Explanation:**
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved issuance of two Open General Export Licences (OGELs) for export of certain parts and components as well as intra-company transfer of technology to select countries.
- This decision is expected to give a boost to defence exports and enhance ease of doing business (EDB).

**October 30**

1. In which state Around 2,209 panchayats were brought under natural farming under Prakritik Kheti Khusshal Kissan Yojana?

**Answer:** Himachal Pradesh

**Explanation:**
- In Himachal Pradesh Around 2,209 panchayats were brought under natural farming under Prakritik Kheti Khusshal Kissan Yojana. The State is promoting Organic and Zero Budget Natural Farming under the scheme.
- Under the scheme, a target of 50,000 farmers have been set for the year 2019. So far 20,579 farmers have been trained.

**Related Keys**
- Himachal Pradesh Capital: Shimla
- Himachal Pradesh Governor: Bandaru Dattatreya.

2. Which state government has signed a Letter of Understanding (LoU) with UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Fund) to provide safe drinking water to every household in the state?

**Answer:** Odisha

**Explanation:**
- The state government of Odisha has signed a Letter of Understanding (LoU) with UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Fund) to provide safe drinking water to every household in the state. The LoU was signed by state housing and urban development department (HUDD) to provide 24-hour safe drinking water.

**Related Keys**
- UNICEF Founded: 11 December 1946
- UNICEF Head: Henrietta H. Fore

3. Which two countries will participate in the joint military exercise to be held between 31st
October 2019 and 13th November 2019?
Answer: India and France
Explanation:
- The joint military exercise of India and French troops is to be held between 31st October 2019 and 13th November 2019. It is a biennial exercise conducted alternately in India and France. The exercise is to be conducted at the Foreign Training Node at Mahajan Field Firing Range, Rajasthan.

October 31
1. Which country hosted the second assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA)?
Answer: India.
Explanation:
- The second assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA) is to be hosted by India. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is hosting the event. It is to be held in New Delhi between October 30 and 31, 2019. The ISA brings together 81 nations.
  Related Keys
  - Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Founded: 1992
  - Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Headquarters: New Delhi

2. Who has released a special commemorative coin on Paramahansa Yogananda to mark his 125th Birth Anniversary?
Answer: Nirmala Sitharaman
Explanation:
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has released a special commemorative coin on Paramahansa Yogananda to mark his 125th Birth Anniversary.
- Paramahansa Yogananda was a great son of India, who became so recognized globally.
  Related Keys
  - Paramahansa Yogananda born on 5 January 1893
  - Paramahansa Yogananda introduced millions to the teachings of meditation and Kriya Yoga through his organization.

**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

October 1
1. In which place 64th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) for 2019 held?
Answer: Uganda.
Explanation:
- The 64th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) for 2019 was held in Kampala, Uganda from September 22-29, 2019 under the theme ‘Adoption, engagement, and evolution of parliaments in a rapidly changing Commonwealth’.
  Related Keys

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2. The greatest and longest Hindu festival named as Bada Dashain began at which country?
   **Answer:** Nepal
   **Explanation:**
   - On September 29, 2019 the greatest and longest Hindu festival of Nepal named as Bada Dashain formally began. The first day of this Dashain marks the beginning of Navaratri festival too.
   - Seeds of maize, wheat, barley, etc are sowed in a "Ghada" (earthen pot) and kept in houses are temples as part of the vedic tradition. The sprouts are taken on 10th day which is observed as Vijayadashami.
   **Related Keys**
   - Nepal Capital: Kathmandu.
   - Nepal Prime minister: Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli (KP Oli)

**October 2**

1. Who opened the Beijing’s new daxing airport?
   **Answer:** Xi Jinping.
   **Explanation:**
   - The China’s very first airport, Nanyuan Airport, shut its doors, the same date that Beijing’s new $11.5 billion Daxing Airport was opened by President Xi Jinping.
   - The last flight, China United Airlines KN5830, left at just after 10 p.m., state media sai.
   **Related News**
   - China Capital: Beijing.
   - China’s President is Xi Jinping.

**October 4**

1. Which two countries signed Memorandum of Understanding to upgrade the existing India-Syria Center for Excellence in Information and Technology?
   **Answer:** India and Syria
   **Explanation:**
   - On October 1, 2019, A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between India and Syria to upgrade the existing India-Syria Center for Excellence in Information and Technology (IT) to the Next Generation Center for Excellence in Information and Technology (NexGen-ISCEIT) situated in Damascus.
   **Related News**
   - Syria Capital: Damascus
   - Syria Currency: Syrian pound or Syrian lira.

**October 5**

1. Which two persons inaugurated the new metro express and new ENT hospital in...
Mauritius?

**Answer**: Narendra Modi and Pravind Jugnauth

**Explanation**:
- On October 3, 2019 the **Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Jugnauth**, jointly inaugurated the **Metro Express and new ENT (ears, nose and throat) Hospital in Mauritius** through a video link.
- This **ENT hospital** is also the **first paperless E-Hospital in Mauritius**.

**Related News**
- Mauritius Capital- Port Louis (also the largest city).
- Mauritius Currency- Mauritian rupee.
- Mauritius President- BarlenViyapoory

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**October 6**

1. **What is the rank of India in GFP Index 2019?**

   **Answer**: 4th.

   **Explanation**:
   - **India ranked 4th in GFP Index 2019; US tops**
   - In the Global Firepower Index (GFP) / Military Strength Ranking 2019 of the Global Firepower which ranks each nation’s potential war-making capability across land, sea and air with conventional weapons, India was ranked 4th with the Power Index (PwrIndex) score of 0.1065 and in South Asia, it stood at the No 1 position.

   **Related Keys**:
   - Globally, the list was topped by the United States.
   - The Military strength of 137 countries was taken into consideration.
   - The top power index score is 0.0000, which is “realistically unattainable,” according to Global Firepower.

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**October 10**

1. **What is the rank of India in 2019 Global Competitiveness Index?**

   **Answer**: 68

   **Explanation**:
   - On October 8, 2019 the **World Economic Forum (WEF)** released its report on **2019 Global Competitiveness Index 4.0.** In the index, India was ranked 68th in the list, which is down by 10 places from its previous rank of 58 in 2018.
   - The **Index was topped by Singapore** as the world’s most competitive economy by replacing the United States in second place.

   **Related Keys**
   - WEF Headquarters-Cologny, Switzerland.

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**October 11**

1. **Which two countries secured 1st rank in the most powerful passport list?**

   **Answer**: Japan and Singapore

   **Explanation**:

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On October 9, the latest Henley & Partners Global Passport Index 2019 was released. In the report, India is currently ranked at 82nd position in 2019, which is one place down from its previous rank of 81 in 2018. Japan and Singapore both hold the most powerful passport by ranking 1st in the list.

Related Keys
- Henley Passport Index was started in 2005 as Henley & Partners Visa Restrictions Index
- It is modified and renamed in January 2018

2. Which country will ban ads for unhealthy sugary drinks?
   **Answer:** Singapore
   **Explanation:**
   - On October 10, 2019, The health ministry of Singapore notified that it will ban ads for unhealthy sugary drinks to combat rising diabetes rates. Thus, it will become the first nation in the world to do such a thing.
   **Related Keys**
   - Singapore Prime Minister- Lee Hsien Loong
   - Singapore President -Hajmah Yacob

**October 12**
1. Which country became a member of Group of 20 (G20) Global Smart Cities Alliance on Technology Governance?
   **Answer:** India
   **Explanation:**
   - India became a member of Group of 20 (G20) Global Smart Cities Alliance on Technology Governance which works towards advancing the responsible and ethical use of smart city technologies. The World Economic Forum (WEF), the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation serves as secretariat for the Alliance.

**October 13**
1. In which place 7th edition of C40 world mayors Summit 2019 held?
   **Answer:** Denmark
   **Explanation:**
   - C40, the group of major international cities that have banded together around making sustainable changes in transportation, energy use, and consumption held its 7th edition of C40 world mayors Summit 2019 at Copenhagen, Denmark from October 9-12, 2019 with the aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve climate resilience.
   **Related Keys:**
   - Denmark Capital: Copenhagen
   - Denmark Currency: Danish krone
   - Denmark Prime minister: Mette Frederiksen

**October 15**
1. According to the World Bank report, “South Asia Economic Focus, Fall 2019 : Making (De-)centralization Work” India’s growth forecast has lowered to what percent?
Answer: 6%

Explanation:
- On October 13, 2019, World Bank (WB) in its report, “South Asia Economic Focus, Fall 2019: Making (Dec)entralization Work”, has lowered India’s growth forecast to 6% for 2019 for the second consecutive year, after a wide decline in the initial quarters.
- As per the report, Bangladesh has become the second-fastest growing economy in South Asia after Bhutan. Bangladesh’s growth rate is expected to increase from 7.9% to 8.1% in 2019.
 RELATED KEYS
- Bangladesh Capital: Dhaka
- Bangladesh Currency: Bangladeshi taka
- Bangladesh Prime minister: Sheikh Hasina

2. BRICS Culture Ministers’ meeting 2019 held in which country?
Answer: Brazil.

Explanation:
- On October 13, 2019, Prahlad Singh Patel, the Union Minister of State for Culture and Tourism (Independent charge) has participated in BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Culture Ministers’ meeting 2019 held in Curitiba, Brazil.
 RELATED KEYS
- BRICS as an idea was coined in Foreign Ministerial meeting of Brazil, Russia, China and India in New York, United States (US) in September, 2006.
- BRIC officially came into existence in 2009 in Yekaterinburg, Russia. South Africa became its member in 2010.

October 16
1. According to UNICEF’s “The State of the World’s Children (SOWC) 2019: Children, food and nutrition- Growing well in a changing world” report 1 in 3 children under 5 affected by which disease?
Answer: undernourished or overweight

Explanation:
- On October 15, 2019, The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) released a report titled “The State of the World’s Children (SOWC) 2019: Children, food and nutrition- Growing well in a changing world”. It was for the first time in 20 years, it evaluated the issue of children, food and nutrition.
- At least 1 in 3 children under 5 or over 200 million are either undernourished or overweight.
 RELATED KEYS
- UNICEF Headquarters: New York, US
- UNICEF Founded: 11 December 1946
- UNICEF Executive Director: Henrietta Holsman Fore
- It was originally known as the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund

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2. Which state got 12th rank in the top 20 list of wealthiest city worldwide 2019?
   Answer: Mumbai
   Explanation:
   - On October 10, 2019 Wealth intelligence firm New World Wealth (NWW) released its report on wealthiest city worldwide 2019. Among Indian cities, Mumbai was the only city to be placed in the top 20 list at 12th rank followed by Delhi at 22nd rank, Bangalore at 26th Rank, and Hyderabad at 28th rank. The list was topped by America’s New York City (NYC).
   - Related Keys
     - NWW specializes in ratings, surveys, country reports and wealth statistics and also provides management services.
     - Headquarters: Johannesburg, South Africa.

October 18
1. Which country secured top spot in the Hurun Global Unicorn List 2019?
   Answer: China
   Explanation:
   - The Hurun Research Institute has released the inaugural Hurun Global Unicorn List 2019. This is the first year of the list and follows from the sixth quarterly Hurun China Unicorn Index.
   - China ranked at the top spot by 206 companies followed by the US with 203.
   - Related Keys
     - It is a ranking of the world’s billion-dollar tech ‘start-ups’ founded in the 2000s.
     - Company’s current valuation - More than US$1 billion.

October 21
1. Which country has been removed from grey list of financial action task force (FATF)?
   Answer: Sri Lanka
   Explanation:
   - Sri Lanka has been removed from ‘Grey List’ of Financial Action Task Force (FATF) following the new measures taken by the country on financial security.
   - The word ‘Grey List’ identified by FATF refers to a jurisdiction with strategic Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) deficiencies.

October 22
1. Who has been sworn into office for his second and final five-year term?
   Answer: Joko Widodo
   Explanation:
   - Indonesian President Joko Widodo has been sworn into office for his second and final five-year term. Widodo, popularly known as Jokowi, took oath at a ceremony in the capital, Jakarta.
   - Widodo clinched victory with 55.5 per cent of the vote in the April presidential election.
   - Related Keys
October 23
1. Which is the oldest known natural pearl in the world has been discovered by Abu Dhabi archaeologists?
   Answer : Abu Dhabi Pearl
   Explanation :
   o The oldest known natural pearl in the world has been discovered by Abu Dhabi archaeologists working at a Neolithic site on Marawah Island. Dubbed the ‘Abu Dhabi Pearl’, it was found in layers that have been radiocarbon dated to 5,800-5,600 BCE.
   o The Emirates News Agency said that the discovery is a proof that pearls and oysters were being used in the UAE nearly 8,000 years ago, and represents the earliest known evidence for pearl mining yet discovered anywhere in the world.

2. Who attended the enthronement ceremony of Japan’s Emperor Naruhito?
   Answer : Ram Nath Kovind
   Explanation :
   o President Ram Nath Kovind attended the enthronement ceremony of Japan’s Emperor Naruhito. Naruhito is the 126th monarch according to Japan’s traditional order.
   o The President arrived in Tokyo after concluding his five-day state visit to the Philippines.
   Related Keys
   o Japan Currency - Yen
   o Japan Capital - Tokyo

October 25
1. Which scientists are constructing a huge cosmic ray observation that is equivalent to 200 soccer fields in Sichuan province?
   Answer : Chinese
   Explanation :
   o The Chinese scientists are constructing a huge cosmic ray observation station that is equivalent to 200 soccer fields in Sichuan province. The observatory is located 4,400 meters above sea level.
   o Around 12 telescopes are to be erected to conduct high-precision measurements of cosmic rays

October 26
1. Which three countries drafted a Memorandum of Understanding to create a trans-boundary wildlife conservation park?
   Answer : India, Nepal and Bhutan
   Explanation :
   o A Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted by India, Nepal and Bhutan to create a trans-boundary wildlife conservation park. The park will include bio-diversity rich landscapes.
The initiative was started by India keeping in view the migratory wildlife species in the region, especially elephants.

**Related Keys**
- Bhutan Capital: Thimphu
- Bhutan Currency: Bhutanese ngultrum, Indian rupee.

**October 27**

1. Which country tourists will be exempted from visas to enter Brazil for tourism or business purposes?
   **Answer:** Indian
   **Explanation:**
   - Indian tourists will be now be exempted from **visas to enter Brazil for tourism or business purposes**. The exemption is also available for Chinese tourists. Both India and China are part of BRICS, an association of 5 major emerging national economies. Other three are Brazil, Russia and South Africa.
   **Related News**
   - Brazil Capital – Brasília
   - Brazil Currency - Brazilian real.

2. Where is the headquarters of UN situated?
   **Answer:** New York
   **Explanation:**
   - On October 24, 2019, the **member states of United Nations** endorsed a **proposed roadmap for action on nitrogen challenges** called Colombo Declaration on Sustainable Nitrogen Management.
   - It was organized by Sri Lanka with the support of UN and its member nations. A two-day event was conducted to frame the declaration.
   **Related News**
   - United Nations Founded: 24 October 1945
   - United Nations Headquarters: New York

**October 28**

1. How many counters have been set up by Pakistan government at the Kartarpur Corridor to facilitate Sikh pilgrims arriving from India and all over the world?
   **Answer:** 80
   **Explanation:**
   - The Pakistan government has set up 80 counters at the Kartarpur Corridor to facilitate Sikh pilgrims arriving from India and all over the world to visit the holy shrine or the **final resting place of Guru Nanak Dev**, the founder of Sikhism.
   - The Sikh community's holiest site to commemorate the 550th birth anniversary of the first Sikh Guru.
   **Related Keys:**
   - Founder of Sikhism: Guru Nanak Dev

2. Which two countries have taken concrete steps to firm up their strategic partnership in
the western Indian Ocean part of their Indo-Pacific strategies?

Answer: India and France

Explanation:
- India and France have taken concrete steps to firm up their strategic partnership in the western Indian Ocean part of their Indo-Pacific strategies, within two months of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's trip to Paris.
- They consisting of Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, and Seychelles in the western Indian Ocean currently meeting for the first time in the Reunion Islands (French territory) for exploring economic and development partnership.

Related Keys:
- France President: Emmanuel Macron
- Currency: Euro

3. Who is the Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia?

Answer: Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud

Explanation:
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia on Monday with an aim to boost bilateral ties between the two countries in key sectors including energy and finance.
- An agreement on the Strategic Partnership Council will also be signed. The two countries are expected to hold joint naval exercises in December this year.

Related Keys:
- Capital and Currency: Riyadh, Saudi riyal
- Prime minister: Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud

October 29

1. Which country denied permission for PM Modi to use its air space?

Answer: Pakistan

Explanation:
- India has approached the world body ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) after Pakistan denied permission for PM Modi to use its air space. The overflight clearances are granted by other countries according to ICAO guidelines.

Related Keys
- In September 2019, Pakistan rejected India’s plea to allow PM Modi’s flight to use its air space. Pakistan also refused to allow President Ram Nath Kovind to use its airspace in the same month for his visit to Iceland.

October 30

1. Which is the Bangladesh’s second largest congregation of Muslim community after Hajj?

Answer: Bishwa Ijtema

Explanation:
- Bangladesh will hold the first phase of Bishwa Ijtema, the second largest congregation of Muslim community after Hajj, from January 10 to 12, 2020 in Dhaka. The second phase of the Ijtema will be held from January 17 to 19.
Biswa Ijtema is an annual event which is held in a 160-acre field on the bank of the Turag River at Tongi on the outskirts of Dhaka since 1967.

**Related Keys**
- Bangladesh Prime minister - Sheikh Hasina
- Bangladesh President - Abdul Hamid

**October 31**

1. Who addressed the third session of Saudi Arabia's Future Investment Initiative Forum?
   
   **Answer:** PM Modi
   
   **Explanation:**
   - **PM Modi** addressed the third session of **Saudi Arabia's Future Investment Initiative Forum**. He talked about India's economy, its challenges and opportunities for equitable growth and prosperity.
   - Before addressing the third session of Saudi Arabia's Future Investment Initiative Forum, PM Modi met the top Saudi leadership and **two countries** and signed several agreements to boost the bilateral relations.

   **Related Keys**
   - First event of Future Investment Initiative Forum was held in October 2017
   - Second event of Future Investment Initiative Forum was held 23–25 October 2018

**IMPORTANT DAYS**

**October 2**

1. Gandhi Jayanti is celebrated on which date?
   
   **Answer:** 2nd October
   
   **Explanation:**
   - **Gandhi Jayanti** is celebrated on 2nd October. This day is celebrated in the honor of the birthday of the Father of the nation, **Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi**, popularly known as **Mahatma Gandhi**.
   - **Related News**
   - Internationally this day is celebrated as the **International Day of Non-Violence as Gandhiji was the preacher of non-violence. He is a symbol of peace and truth**.

**October 5**

1. What is the theme of World Space Week?
   
   **Answer:** The Moon: Gateway to the Stars
   
   **Explanation:**
   - The **World Space Week** (WSW), proclaimed in 6 December 1999 by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly is observed annually from **October 4-10** under the resolution (A/RES/54/68).
   - The theme for the year 2019 is **“The Moon: Gateway to the Stars”**, celebrating the 50th anniversary of humankind’s first step on the Moon on 20 July 1969.

   **Related News**
October 6

1. On which day World Teachers day was observed?
   Answer: October 5

   Explanation:
   - **World Teachers day** observed on **October 5, 2019**
   - On October 5, 2019, World Teacher’s Day or International Teachers Day was observed across the world with an aim to improve teachers’ situation in the world. The theme of this day for 2019 is Young Teachers: **The Future of the Profession**.
   - Related Keys:
     - Established - 1994

October 8

1. What is the theme of Wildlife Week?
   Answer: Life Below Water: For People And Planet

   Explanation:
   - The Wildlife Week is being celebrated all over India from **2nd - 8th October 2019** with the aim of **protecting Indian wildlife species from extinction**.
   - The theme for the year 2019 is “Life Below Water: For People And Planet” which aimed at preservation of underwater fauna and flora.

October 13

1. On which days National Postal Week is being celebrated in India?
   Answer: 9 – 15 October

   Explanation:
   - **National Postal Week** is being celebrated in India from **9 – 15 October 2019**
   - with the aim to create broader awareness about the India Post’s role and activities in the lives of people and business and its contribution to social and economic development.
   - Related Keys:
     - India Post Formed: 1 October 1854
     - India Post Headquarters: New Delhi

2. On which day World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) was observed?
   Answer: October 12

   Explanation:
   - On **October 12, 2019**, **World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD)** was observed all over the world to create awareness on the need for conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. The Theme for 2019 is “**Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution**”.
October 14

1. On which day International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) was observed?
   Answer: October 13
   Explanation:
   - On **October 13, 2019**, **International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction** (IDDRR) has been observed to promote global culture towards risk awareness and disaster reduction.
   - The theme for the year 2019 is “Reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services”.
   Related Keys:
   - IDDRR started by: the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)
   - IDDRR Started in the year: 1989

October 17

1. On which day World Food Day is celebrated every year around the world?
   Answer: October 16
   Explanation:
   - World Food Day is celebrated every year around the world on **16 October** in honour of the date of the founding of the **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945**.
   - 2019 theme: ‘Our Actions Are Our Future Healthy Diets for A #ZeroHunger World’

October 22

1. On which day Police Commemoration Day or National Police day observed by India?
   Answer: October 21
   Explanation:
   - India observes **Police Commemoration Day or National Police day on 21 October** every year. On this day in 1959, 10 police personnel were killed in a Chinese attack and the commemoration day is observed to mark the incident.
   - Last year, on this day, the **National Police Memorial in New Delhi** was dedicated to the nation by PM Modi.

October 26

1. Which week is observed as Disarmament Week in various parts of the world?
   Answer: 24 October to 30 October
   Explanation:
   - **Disarmament Week** is an annual event that is observed from **24 October to 30 October** in various parts of the world. The observance revolves around raising public awareness of the dangers of the arms race and the need for international disarmament.
   - An important focus of this week is trying to convince nations to only keep the weapons they need for an adequate police force.

October 27

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1. Which week is observed as Vigilance Awareness Week?
   **Answer:** last week of October

   **Explanation:**
   - The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is to observe **Vigilance Awareness Week** between 28th October, 2019 to 2nd November, 2019. The directions for the observance will be issued by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).
   - Every year last week of October is observed as Vigilance Awareness Week.

   **Related News**
   - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Founded: 1976
   - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Headquarters: **New Delhi**

**October 29**

1. On which day International Internet Day is celebrated every year?
   **Answer:** October 29

   **Explanation:**
   - **International Internet Day** is celebrated worldwide, every year on 29th of October. Since the year 2005 the International Internet Day has been famously celebrated to commemorate a momentous day in the history of telecommunications and technology.

**October 31**

1. On which day World Cities Day is celebrated?
   **Answer:** 31st October

   **Explanation:**
   - The **World Cities Day (WCD)** is being celebrated on 31st October by the United Nations to promote the international community’s interest in global urbanization. It also intends to address the challenges of urbanization and to contribute to sustainable urban development around the world.

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**SCIENCE AND TECH UPDATES**

**October 1**

1. Which organisation successfully test fired the land attack version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise from Chandipur coast in Odisha?
   **Answer:** DRDO

   **Explanation:**
   - On September 30, 2019 the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), successfully test fired the land attack version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise from Chandipur coast in Odisha in its Balasore district.
   - Having a strike range of 290 km, this missile can be fired from both land and sea based platforms and also adds strength to the “Make in India” flagship programme.

   **Related Keys**
   - DRDO Headquarters- New Delhi.
   - DRDO Founded- 1958.
October 6

1. Which military successfully test fires Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile?
   **Answer:** US
   **Explanation:**
   - US military successfully test fires Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile
   - The United States Air Force (USAF) successfully tested an unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) equipped with reentry vehicle from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California.
   **Related Keys:**
   - It travelled approximately 4,200 miles (6,750km) across the Pacific Ocean to the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands.
   - started in 1966
   - the missile is armed with 170 kilotons of TNT (Trinitrotoluene)

October 7

1. Which country sent the new Gaofen-10 satellite into space with a March-4C rocket?
   **Answer:** China
   **Explanation:**
   - On October 5, 2019, China has sent the new Gaofen-10 satellite into space with a March-4C rocket developed by the Shanghai Academy of Spaceflight Technology under the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in North China’s Shanxi Province.
   - It was the 314th flight mission of the Long March carrier rocket series.
   **Related Keys**
   - China Capital: Beijing
   - China Currency: Rennminbi
   - China President: Xi Jinping

October 8

1. Which university researchers captured images of the formation of individual viruses?
   **Answer:** Harvard University
   **Explanation:**
   - The researchers, including those from Harvard University in the United States (US) have captured images of the formation of individual viruses. The study was published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS).
   - The viruses when formed were of 30 nanometers in diameter and had one piece of RNA (Ribonoucleic Acid) about 180 identical proteins.

October 9

1. How many new moons orbiting Saturn increasing its tally of moons to 82?
   **Answer:** 20
   **Explanation:**
   - A team of researchers led by Carnegie’s Scott S. Sheppard from the University
of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) discovered 20 new moons orbiting Saturn, increasing its tally of moons to 82. It surpassed the number of moons orbiting Jupiter planet which stands at 79.

- This was announced by the International Astronomical Union’s (IAU) Minor Planet Center (MPC), France.

**October 12**

1. Which layer of the earth’s atmosphere that contains a high concentration of ions and free electrons and is able to reflect radio waves?

   **Answer:** Ionospheric

   **Explanation:**

   - On October 10, 2019, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched Ionospheric Connection Explorer (ICON) space weather satellite from Northrop Grumman’s L-1011 Stargazer aircraft, with the company’s Pegasus XL rocket attached beneath, from the Skid Strip runway at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida, United States.

   - **Ionospheric** is the layer of the earth’s atmosphere that contains a high concentration of ions and free electrons and is able to reflect radio waves.

**October 12**

1. What is the name of the 1st & unique eel-loach species of miniature well-dwelling subterranean fish?

   **Answer:** Pangio bhujia

   **Explanation**

   - The scientists of Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOS) have discovered a 1st & unique eel-loach species of miniature well-dwelling subterranean fish named ‘Pangio bhujia’ (due to its resemblance to the North Indian snack, bhujia) in Cherinja village, Kozhikode district of Kerala.

   - The eel, lives in deep subterranean aquifers, is about 3 centimetres in length, pinkish-red in colour & belongs to the genus Pangio.

**October 15**

1. Which institute has signed a 5-year joint-research agreement with ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company (EMRE)?

   **Answer:** IIT Madras

   **Explanation**

   - On October 14, 2019, Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT), Madras has signed a 5-year joint-research agreement with ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company (EMRE), the research and engineering arm of ExxonMobil Corporation for research in biofuels, data analytics, gas conversion and transport, and finding low-emission solutions.

   - This agreement is in line with the central Government’s new ‘biofuel policy’, which targets to convert the country’s biofuel industry into a 15.68 billion economy.
October 19

1. Who invented a device called “PM 2.5”?  
   Answer: Debayan Saha  
   Explanation  
   o An IIT Kharagpur graduate Debayan Saha, invented a device called “PM 2.5” which he claimed when fitted near the silencer pipe in vehicles will curb air pollution. One car fitted with the device can neutralise the pollution emitted from 10 cars in its vicinity.  
   o “The technology developed by us uses a combination of electric energy and wave energy to influence the pollutants like PM 2.5 such that they act like magnet attracting other particulate pollutants from the ambient atmosphere to get attached to it.  
   Related Keys  
   o IIT Kharagpur Established on 1951  
   o IIT Kharagpur Chairman - Sanjiv Goenka

October 20

1. Who created history by taking a walk outside the International Space Station (ISS)?  
   Answer: Christina Koch & Jessica Meir  
   Explanation  
   o On October 18, 2019, the United States (US) Space agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration’s (NASA) astronauts Christina Koch (40) & Jessica Meir (42) have created history by taking a walk outside the International Space Station (ISS).  
   o This is the 1st time that only a team of women astronauts has walked outside the ISS.  
   Related Keys  
   o NASA formed: July 29, 1958  
   o NASA Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States  
   o NASA Motto: For the Benefit of All

October 24

1. Which Organisation approved the proposal for Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation between India and USA?  
   Answer: Union Cabinet  
   Explanation:  
   o The Union Cabinet on October 24, 2019 approved the proposal for Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation between India and USA. The countries will share scientific and technical information and experts.  
   o The agreement would enable cooperation between the countries in training the scientists and experts according to the requirements.
October 25
1. Which processor was able to perform a calculation in 200 seconds?
   Answer: 54-bit Sycamore
   Explanation:
   - Google has officially announced that it has achieved quantum supremacy with its
     advanced processor that was able to surpass the world’s most powerful
     supercomputer.
   - Google says that its 54-bit Sycamore processor was able to perform a calculation
     in 200 seconds that would have taken the world’s most powerful supercomputer
     10,000 years.
   Related Keys
   - Google Founded on 4 September 1998
   - Google CEO - Sundar Pichai

October 29
1. Which journal published the astronomical findings?
   Answer: Astrophysical
   Explanation:
   - Scientists have accidentally discovered ‘the footprints of a monstrous galaxy’
     being called as ‘Cosmic Yeti’ in early universe that has never been seen before.
     The discovery provides new insights into the first growing steps of some of
     biggest galaxies in universe. The astronomical findings were published in
     Astrophysical Journal
   Related Keys
   - The “cosmic Yeti” galaxy so far might have been concealed by dust clouds and
     had as many stars as the Milky Way.
   - It was forming new stars at a rate that was over 100 times faster than in Milky
     Way.

October 31
1. Which researchers developed a new technology to capture carbon dioxide (CO2) from a
   stream of air virtually at any concentration level?
   Answer: Massachusetts Institute of Technology
   Explanation:
   - Researchers from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), United
     States (US) have developed a new technology to capture carbon dioxide
     (CO2) from a stream of air, virtually at any concentration level.
   - This is a new advance that may pave a way for new strategies to reduce
     atmospheric greenhouse gas (GHG) levels.
   Related Keys
   - Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Established - April 10, 1861
   - Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Located at Cambridge,
     Massachusetts, United States

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October 2
1. Who won silver medal in women’s sabre individual category in the 2019 Tournoi Satellite Fencing competition (World level) at Ghent, Belgium?
   **Answer:** CA Bhavani Devi
   **Explanation:**
   - On September 29, 2019 Indian fencer CA Bhavani Devi (Chennai, Tamilnadu) won silver medal in women’s sabre individual category in the 2019 Tournoi Satellite Fencing competition (World level) at Ghent, Belgium.
   - She lost to Azerbaijan’s Bashita Anna who won the gold medal in the event.

October 3
1. Who slipped a rank to 6th due to poor performance in the last two weeks as per the report released by BWF Rankings?
   **Answer:** PV Sindhu
   **Explanation:**
   - As per the recently released BWF (Badminton World Federation) Rankings 2019, World Champion women’s shuttler PV Sindhu (24) has slipped a rank to 6th due to poor performance in the last two weeks but Parupalli Kashyap (33) has benefitted from a good performance and is in 25th position.
   **Related Keys**
   - BWF Formation: 1934
   - BWF Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
   - BWF President: Poul-Erik Hoyer Larsen

October 4
1. Who won the FIDE Women’s Grand Prix tournament 2019 held in Skolkovo in Russia?
   **Answer:** Koneru Humpy
   **Explanation:**
   - Indian woman chess player Koneru Humpy, aged 32, from Andhra Pradesh was ranked world number 3 in the 2019 rankings released by Fédération Internationale des Échecs (FIDE) or World Chess Federation.
   - She recently won the FIDE Women’s Grand Prix tournament 2019 held in Skolkovo in Russia and accumulated 17 ELO points to rise to the third spot with a global rating of 2,577.
   **Related Keys**
   - FIDE Founded: 20 July 1924
   - FIDE Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland

October 9
1. Which country will host the Tokyo Olympic Games 3×3 basketball qualifying tournament in March 2020?
   **Answer:** India
   **Explanation:**
   - On October 8, 2019, As per the world governing body of the sport FIBA (International Basketball Federation), **India** will host the Tokyo Olympic Games.
**3x3 basketball qualifying tournament** in March 2020 with a total participation of 40 teams (20 male and 20 female teams).
- The location of the event will be announced later.

**Related News**
- FIBA Formation: 18 June 1932
- FIBA Headquarters: **Mies, Switzerland**
- FIBA President: **Hamane Niang**

**October 10**
1. Which country has maintained its second position in the latest International Cricket Council (ICC) women’s One Day International (ODI) rankings?
   **Answer:** India
   **Explanation:**
   - On October 7, 2019 in the latest International Cricket Council (ICC) women’s One Day International (ODI) rankings, India has maintained its second position and has also increased its points lead over England which is ranked at the 3rd position. The list was topped by Australia.

**Related Keys**
- ICC Headquarters- Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- ICC Chairman- Shashank Manohar.

**October 12**
1. Which cricket team broke the record for most consecutive wins in One Day International (ODI) cricket with their 18th triumph by defeating Sri Lanka?
   **Answer:** Australia
   **Explanation:**
   - On October 9, 2019 the Australian women’s cricket team broke the record for most consecutive wins in One Day International (ODI) cricket with their 18th triumph by defeating Sri Lanka.
   - They broke their own record of 17 consecutive wins achieved between 1997 and 1999.

**Related News**
- Australian One Day captain - **Aaron Finch**
- Australian T20I captain - **Aaron Finch**
- Australian Coach - **Justin Langer**
- Australian Test captain - **Tim Paine**

**October 14**
1. Which country bagged seven medals in World Youth Chess Championship 2019?
   **Answer:** India
   **Explanation:**
   - **World Youth Chess Championship 2019** was held in Mumbai, India from 1st to 13th October, 2019. The Championship was organized by the Federation Internationale des Echecs (FIDE). India bagged seven medals in the
Championship including 1 gold, 3 silver and 3 bronze medal.

- Pragnanandlaa R - Open U18- Gold
- Agrawal Vantika - Girls U18 – Silver

**Related Keys:**
- The Championship was held in Girls U14, Open U14, Girls U16, Open U16, Girls U18, and Open U18 categories.
- Youngsters from **66 countries** were competing in the Championship.

**October 15**

1. Who took 2nd position in the batting list of ICC (International Cricket Council) men’s test rankings 2019?
   **Answer:** Virat Kohli
   **Explanation:**
   - As per the latest ICC (International Cricket Council) men’s test rankings 2019, Indian captain **Virat Kohli** (936 points) has reached very close to the top Australian batsman **Steve Smith** (937 points) & took 2nd position in the batting list.
   - In bowlers ranking, **Ravichandran Ashwin** has also gained three places. He is now in seventh place, while **Bumrah** is still in third place.
   **Related Keys:**
   - ICC Formation: 15 June 1909
   - ICC Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE)
   - ICC Chairman: **Shashank Manohar**
   - ICC CEO: **Manu Sawhney**

**October 17**

1. Who became the world number one ODI batter in the latest ICC Women's player rankings?
   **Answer:** Amy Satterthwaite
   **Explanation:**
   - New Zealand's **Amy Satterthwaite** became the world **number one** ODI batter in the latest **ICC Women's player rankings**. The 33-year old replaced India cricketer Smriti Mandhana and is now four points ahead of the opener.
   - India all-rounder **Shikha Pandey** is at the tenth spot, moving up two places.
   **Related keys**
   - Amy Satterthwaite debut match - 2003
   - Amy Satterthwaite Born on 7 October 1986

**October 18**

1. Who became the youngest batsman to score a double century in List (One-Day) cricket?
   **Answer:** Yashasvi Jaiswal
   **Explanation:**
   - **Mumbai** teenager **Yashasvi Jaiswal** created history as he became the youngest cricketer in the world to score a double century in One Day cricket.
   - He became the **youngest batsman** to score a double century in List (One-Day) cricket.
October 20
1. Who topped in the Forbes list of world’s highest paid women athletes for 2019?
   Answer: Serena Williams
   Explanation:
   - PV Sindhu ranked 13th in Forbes list of world’s highest paid women athletes for 2019; Serena Williams tops
   - In the Forbes list of world’s highest paid women athletes for 2019, Indian badminton player PV (Pusarla Venkata) Sindhu was ranked 13th with a total earning of $5.5 million, comprising total prize money of $500,000 and endorsements worth $5 million.
   Related Keys
   - Forbes First published: September 15, 1917
   - Forbes in Chief: Steve Forbes

October 22
1. Who put up a brilliant effort to win the mixed doubles in badminton title at the Egypt International 2019 in Cairo?
   Answer: Kuhoo Garg and Dhruv Rawat
   Explanation:
   - In badminton, Kuhoo Garg and Dhruv Rawat put up a brilliant effort to win the mixed doubles title at the Egypt International 2019 in Cairo. The unseeded Garg and Rawat held their nerves for a tight 21-16, 22-20 victory over the third seeds Utkarsh Arora and Karishma Wadkar in an all-Indian final.
   Related Keys
   - Egypt Capital: Cairo
   - Egypt Currency: Egyptian pound

October 23
1. Who won his opening bout in the men’s flyweight (52kg) category in the 7th CISM World Military Games in Wuhan, China?
   Answer: Amit Panghal
   Explanation:
   - In Boxing, World Championships silver medallist Amit Panghal won his opening bout in the men's flyweight (52kg) category as the boxers gave India a good start in the 7th CISM World Military Games in Wuhan, China.
   - Panghal beat Douglas Andrade of Brazil 4-1.

October 24
1. Who had completed the 100m IT1 race in just 12 seconds?
   Answer: Anandan Gunasekaran
   Explanation:
   - Para-Athlete Anandan Gunasekaran bagged two gold medals for the Indian contingent in the ongoing World Military Games in Wuhan, China. He won the first gold in the disabled men's 100m IT1 event and won another gold in the disabled men's 400m IT1 event.
Gunasekaran had completed the 100m IT1 race in just 12 seconds.

October 25
1. Who bagged the third gold medal for India in the ongoing World Military Games here at Wuhan, China?
   Answer: Aneesh Kumar Surendran Pillai
   Explanation:
   - Aneesh Kumar Surendran Pillai bagged the third gold medal for India in the ongoing World Military Games here at Wuhan, China. He won the gold in disabled men’s shotput IT1 event and he finished with a score of 12.76.
   - Previously, he had bagged two gold medals for the Indian contingent in the ongoing World Military Games.

October 28
1. Who won a silver at the ongoing seventh Military World Games?
   Answer: Deepak
   Explanation:
   - Indian pugilist Deepak won a silver while tennis player N Sriram Balaji claimed a bronze medal in their respective events at the ongoing seventh Military World Games here on Saturday.
   - Deepak had to settle for the silver in the men’s light fly weight (46-49 kg) category after losing 0-5 to gold medallist Zhussupov Temirtas of Kazakhstan in the final.
   Related Keys:
   - Host City: Wuhan, China
   - 100 countries competed in 27 sports

ECONOMY

October 16
1. Which Aircraft has become the first airline in the world to use taxiobot on an A320 aircraft with passengers onboard at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi?
   Answer: Air India
   Explanation:
   - On October 15, 2019, Air India has become the first airline in the world to use taxiobot on an A320 aircraft with passengers onboard at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi. The taxiobot is a pilot-controlled semi-robotic aircraft tractor, bringing the aircraft from the parking bay to the runway and vice versa.
   Related Keys:
   - Air India Headquarters: New Delhi
   - Air India Slogan: Air India, Truly Indian
   - Air India CMD: Ashwani Lohani

October 22
1. Who have infused a net sum of 5,072 crore rupees into the Indian capital markets this month?
   **Answer:** Foreign portfolio investors
   **Explanation:**
   - Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs), have infused a net sum of **5,072 crore rupees into the Indian capital markets** this month so far amid the government’s efforts to revive domestic demand.
   - FPIs had invested about **6,558 crore rupees** in the domestic capital markets (both equity and debt).

**October 23**

1. Which day is celebrated as World Development Information Day?
   **Answer:** October 24
   **Explanation:**
   - **World Development Information Day** is celebrated on **24th October** every year. This day is observed to draw the attention of the world to development problems and the need to strengthen international cooperation to solve them.

**AWARDS**

**October 5**

1. Who presented “VayoshreshthaSamman – 2019” in New Delhi, as an honour to senior citizens and institutions for their services towards the cause of the elderly persons?
   **Answer:** Shri Ram Nath Kovind
   **Explanation:**
   - On October 3, 2019 the president of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind presented “VayoshreshthaSamman – 2019” in New Delhi, as an honour to senior citizens and institutions for their services towards the cause of the elderly persons, function organised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment presided by Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot.
   - **Related News**
     - Minister of State (MoS) - Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar.
     - Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment Secretary - Neelam Sawhney.

**October 9**

1. Who will be felicitated with prestigious Asia Environmental Enforcement Award 2019?
   **Answer:** Ramesh Pandey
   **Explanation:**
   - The 1996-batch Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer Ramesh Pandey will be felicitated with prestigious Asia Environmental Enforcement Award 2019 by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on November 13, 2019 at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) in Bangkok, Thailand. It is the **4th**
Edition of the awards.

Related Keys
- UNEP Formation: 5 June 1972
- UNEP Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya
- UNEP Executive Director: Inger Andersen

October 10
1. Who won the Nobel Prize in the field of chemistry?
   **Answer**: John B Goodenough, M Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino
   **Explanation**: On October 8, 2019, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (RSAS) has awarded the 2019 Nobel Prize in the field of chemistry to John B Goodenough (97), M Stanley Whittingham (77) and Akira Yoshino (71) for their pivotal role in making lithium ion batteries. The trio shares the prize money of 9 million kronor (£738,000).
   - Nobel Prize It is a set of annual international awards bestowed for outstanding work in the fields of physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature, economics, and the promotion of peace.

October 13
1. Who got the first place of best article and photograph in the 13th edition of PII-ICRC Awards for 2019?
   **Answer**: Urvashi Sarkar & G. Sivaprasisad
   **Explanation**: Winners of the 13th edition of PII-ICRC Awards for 2019 declared
   - On October 1, 2019, The 13th edition of the Press Institute of India (PII)-International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) annual awards 2019 for best article and best photograph on a humanitarian subject were declared. The award ceremony was jointly organized by the PII and ICRC New Delhi Regional Delegation in New Delhi.
   - Urvashi Sarkar (First place) – Best Article category
   - G. Sivaprasisad (First place) - Best Photograph category
   **Related Keys**: The awards were given under the theme “Impact of Climate Change on Humanitarian Issues”.
   - Prior to the award ceremony, a discussion on the “Impact of climate change on humanitarian issues” was held.

October 14
1. Who won the People’s Choice Award 2019 at My Rode Reel Film Competition 2019?
   **Answer**: Arun Joseph
   **Explanation**: Short film ‘Spirit of Kerala’ wins the People’s Choice Award 2019
   - ‘Spirit of Kerala’, a short film based on a boat race from Kerala directed by Arun Joseph, won the People’s Choice Award 2019 at My Rode Reel Film Competition 2019 which is the world’s largest short film competition. The winners shared in a prize money worth over $1,000,000.
**October 15**

1. Who emerged as India’s most generous philanthropist contributed Rs 826 crore during the financial year 2018-19 (FY19)?
   **Answer:** Shiv Nadar  
   **Explanation:** According to the *Edelgive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2019* which was released on October 14, 2019 by Hurun India, (Hindustan Computer Limited) HCL Technologies Chairman **Shiv Nadar** emerged as India’s most generous philanthropists who contributed **Rs 826 crore** during the financial year **2018-19** (FY19).

**October 16**

1. What is the name of the Indian nun declared Saint by Pope Francis?
   **Answer:** Mariam Thresia  
   **Explanation:**  
   - On October 13, 2019, **Indian nun Mariam Thresia of Kerala** and four others (English Cardinal John Henry Newman, Swiss laywoman Marguerite Bays, Brazilian Sister Dulce Lopes and Italian Sister Giuseppina Vannini) declared Saints by Pope Francis (head of the Catholic Church) at a **grand ceremony** at the **Vatican City**, a city-state surrounded by Rome, Italy.  
   - The title was conferred on **Thresia 93 years** after her death.

2. How many heritage landmarks from India were chosen for the UNESCO Asia – Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation 2019?
   **Answer:** 4  
   **Explanation:**  
   - On October 14, 2019 **4 heritage landmarks** from India were chosen for the **UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards** for Cultural Heritage Conservation 2019.  
   - The awards were announced at a ceremony held in **Penang, Malaysia**. Renewal of Tai Kwun – Centre for Heritage and Arts in Hong Kong received the Award of Excellence, which is the highest award among all categories.  
   **Related Keys**  
   - UNESCO Founded- 16 November 1945.  
   - UNESCO Headquarters- Paris, France.  
   - UNESCO Head- Audrey Azoulay.

**October 21**

1. Who presented the “Most Eminent Senior Citizen Award” to scholar, legal luminary and former Attorney General Of India Shri K Parasaran?  
   **Answer:** Shri Venkaiyah Naidu  
   **Explanation:**  
   - The Vice President **Shri Venkaiyah Naidu** presented the “**Most Eminent Senior Citizen Award**” to scholar, legal luminary and former Attorney General of India...
Shri K Parasaran.
  o He was honored with the award on the occasion of Elder’s Day celebration organized by Age Care India.

October 30
1. Who conferred the first National Corporate Social Responsibility Awards to the companies for their outstanding contribution in the area of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)?
   Answer: Ram Nath Kovind
   Explanation:
   o President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the first National Corporate Social Responsibility Awards to the companies for their outstanding contribution in the area of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
   o Commending the efforts of Ministry of Corporate Affairs for initiating the National CSR Awards in the year of Gandhiji’s 150th birth anniversary, he said, these awards will be conferred every year on 2nd October.

APPOINTMENTS

October 1
1. Who is the new administrator of the Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank Ltd?
   Answer: Jai Bhagwan Bhoria
   Explanation:
   o The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed Jai Bhagwan Bhoria as the new administrator of the Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank Ltd, Mumbai succeeding S.Waryam Singh and it superseded the existing Board
   Related Keys
   o RBI Governor: Shaktikanta Das
   o RBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

October 3
1. Who is appointed as the Executive Director (ED) for India on the board of the International Monetary Fund?
   Answer: Surjit S Bhalla
   Explanation:
   o On October 1, 2019 the government has appointed economist Surjit S Bhalla as the Executive Director (ED) for India on the board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Surjit succeeds former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) deputy governor Subir Gokarn, who passed away recently in July 2019 due to illness.
2. Who was appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive of the Punjab National Bank (PNB)?
Answer: Mallikarjun Rao
Explanation:
- On October 1, 2019 S. S. Mallikarjun Rao was appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive of the Punjab National Bank (PNB). Currently serving as chief executive of the Allahabad Bank, Rao will replace Sunil Mehta of PNB and will head the Delhi based bank till September 18, 2021.

Related Keys
- PNB Founded - 19 May 1894.
- PNB Founder - Dyal Singh Majithia and Lala Lajpat Rai.

October 6
1. Who was appointed as the chairman-cum-managing director of OIL?
Answer: Sushil Chandra Mishra
Explanation:
- Sushil Chandra Mishra got appointed as chairman-cum-managing director of OIL.
- On October 2, 2019, the second largest hydrocarbon exploration and production Indian public sector company & Oil India Limited (OIL) has appointed Sushil Chandra Mishra as its new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the company.

Related Keys:
- Founded: 18 February 1959
- Headquarters: Duliajan & Baghjan, Assam

October 11
1. Who is elevated as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Mastercard India?
Answer: Mr Vikas Varma
Explanation:
- Mastercard India, payment technology major, elevated Mr Vikas Varma as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the firm. He will take up the responsibility related to new partnerships and development of digital payment solutions and has been serving the firm since 2005.

Related Keys
- Mastercard Founded: 1966
October 20
1. Who was appointed as the chairman of Indian Bank’s Association (IBA)?
   Answer: Shri Rajnish Kumar
   Explanation:
   - On October 18, 2019 the **chairman of State Bank of India (SBI) Shri Rajnish Kumar** was appointed as the new chairman of Indian Bank’s Association (IBA).
   - He succeeds **Sunil Mehta, the former Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Punjab National Bank (PNB)**
   Related keys
   - IBA formed – 26 September 1946
   - IBA Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

October 26
1. Who was the Chairman of the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)?
   Answer: Sukhbir Singh Sandhu
   Explanation:
   - The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi appointed **Sukhbir Singh Sandhu** as the Chairman of the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI).
   - Sandhu is a 1988 batch IAS officer from the Uttarakhand Cadre.

October 31
1. Who was appointed as new Director General (DG) of National Security Guard (NSG)?
   Answer: Anup Kumar Singh
   Explanation:
   - **Senior IPS officer Anup Kumar Singh** has taken charge as the new Director General (DG) of National Security Guard (NSG).
   - The NSG is a counter-terrorism unit under the Ministry of Home Affairs. It was raised in 1984.

**BOOKS**

October 2
1. Who wrote the book “Lal Bahadur Shastri Politics and Beyond”?
   Answer: Sandeep Shastri
   Explanation:
   - Book titled **“Lal Bahadur Shastri: Politics and Beyond”** authored by political analyst **Sandeep Shastri** commemorating Late Shastri’s 113th birth anniversary on October 2, 2019 is set to be released.
   - It is published by **Rupa Publications**.
October 21
1. Which book is unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at new delhi?
   Answer: ‘Bridgital Nation: Solving Technology’
   Explanation:
   o Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a book titled ‘Bridgital Nation: Solving Technology’s People Problem’ in New Delhi on 20 October 2019. He presented books’ first copy to eminent industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata.
   o The book has been authored by N Chandrasekaran, Chairman, Tata Sons and Roopa Purushothaman.

October 22
1. Who has come out with English translations of two Hindu mythological texts “Markendya Purana” and “The Bhagavad Gita”?
   Answer: Bibek Debroy
   Explanation:
   o Economist and author Bibek Debroy have come out with English translations of two Hindu mythological texts “Markendya Purana” and “The Bhagavad Gita”, publishers Penguin announced.
   o The book is a special bilingual edition of the foundational text on "dharma" and the Hindu philosophy.

BANKING NEWS

October 1
1. Aegon Life Insurance has signed a Corporate Agency Agreement on which entity to offer comprehensive life insurance products?
   Answer: Paytm
   Explanation:
   o On September 27, 2019, Indian life insurance provider, Aegon Life Insurance has signed a Corporate Agency Agreement with Paytm, an Indian e-commerce payment system to offer comprehensive life insurance products.
   Related Keys
   o Paytm Founded : 2010
   o Paytm Headquarters :Noida, Uttar Pradesh
   o Paytm CEO and President :Vijay Shekhar Sharma
   o Aegon Life Insurance Founded :2008
   o Aegon Life Insurance Headquarters : Mumbai
   o Aegon Life Insurance MD & CEO : Mr. Vineet Arora

October 3
1. Which Bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Army with the aim to provide new and better banking experience for both serving & retired personnel of Indian Army?

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Answer: Bank of Baroda (BoB)

Explanation:
- On October 1, 2019, Bank of Baroda (BoB), Indian multinational, public sector bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Army with the aim to provide new and better banking experience for both serving & retired personnel of Indian Army.

Related Keys:
- BOB Founded: 20 July 1908
- BOB Headquarters: Vadodara, Gujarat
- BOB MD & CEO: P. S. Jayakumar

October 4
1. Who resigned the chief financial officer (CFO) post of Yes Bank?
Answer: Rajat Monga

Explanation:
- On October 3, 2019, Rajat Monga, the senior group president and former chief financial officer (CFO) of Yes Bank resigned from his post. The announcement was made by the bank’s Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ravneet Gill.

Related News:
- Yes bank Founded: 2004
- Yes bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra

October 5
1. Who is the head of Monetary Policy Committee?
Answer: Shaktikanta Das

Explanation:
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced its 4th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy Rates for 2019-20. The three-day policy review meeting held on October 1, 3, 4 of 2019 consisting of 6 members of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) was headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das.
- Repo Rate was reduced by 25 basis points to 5.15% from 5.40% with immediate effect.

2. Who has launched three new digital products called, UCash, Digilocker and an app in Kolkata, West Bengal?
Answer: A K Goel

Explanation:
- A major government-owned commercial bank of India, UCO Bank’s (United Commercial Bank) managing director (MD) and CEO, A K Goel has launched three new digital products called, UCash, Digilocker and an app in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- A new current account facility has also been launched by the bank.

Related News:
- UCO bank Founded: 6 January 1943
- UCO bank Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal
October 6
1. Which bank has tied up with Common Service Centre e-Governance Services India Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC SPV) to expand its reach to villages and remote towns?
   **Answer:** ICICI Bank
   **Explanation:**
   - ICICI Bank inks pact with CSC e-Governance services India to expand rural outreach
   - **On October 4, 2019,** Indian multinational banking and financial services company, **ICICI Bank** (Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India) has tied up with Common Service Centre e-Governance Services India Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC SPV) to expand its reach to villages and remote towns.
   **Related Keys:**
   - Founded: 5 January 1994
   - Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
   - MD & CEO: Sandeep Bakhshi
   - Tagline: Hum Hai na, Khayal apka

October 9
1. What is the full form of AEOI?
   **Answer:** Automatic Exchange Of Information
   **Explanation:**
   - In the **matter of getting information about black money from foreign land,** India has got the first details of accounts of Indian citizens in **Swiss banks** under the new regular system of **automatic exchange of information (AEOI).** However, the exchange of information is done with the condition of confidentiality.
   **Related Keys**
   - Swiss bank Headquarters: Basel, Switzerland
   - Swiss bank Founded: 1872

October 10
1. Which company has received a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) license from the Reserve Bank of India?
   **Answer:** Shubh Loans
   **Explanation:**
   - On October 8, 2019, **Shubh Loans,** a Bengaluru-based fintech sector start-up, has received a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) license from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** through its subsidiary 'Ekagrata' of its parent company Data signs Technologies.
   **Related Keys**
   - Shubh Loans Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka
   - Shubh Loans CEO & Founder: Monish Anand
Answer: World Bank
Explanation:
- GVC describes the people and activities involved in the production of a good or service and its supply, distribution, and post-sales activities when activities must be coordinated across geographies.
Related Keys
- World Bank Parent organization: World Bank Group
- World Bank Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
- World Bank Founded: 1945
- President: David R. Malpass

October 11
1. Which bank has given its final approval of Kerala government’s long-pending proposal of setting up its own ‘Kerala Bank’, by amalgamating 13 district co-operative banks (DCBs) with Kerala State Co-operative Bank?
Answer: Reserve Bank of India
Explanation:
- On October 10, 2019, The country’s central bank, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given its final approval of Kerala government’s long-pending proposal of setting up its own ‘Kerala Bank’, by amalgamating 13 district co-operative banks (DCBs) with Kerala State Co-operative Bank.
Related Keys
- Kerala Capital: Thiruvananthapuram
- Kerala Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan
- Kerala Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan

October 13
1. Which bank came up with a new reporting system for all co-operative banks (urban, State & district central) called Central Information System for Banking Infrastructure (CISBI)?
Answer: Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Explanation:
- RBI introduces new reporting system for co-operative banks- CISBI
- On October 11, 2019, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) came up with a new reporting system for all co-operative banks (urban, State & district central) called Central Information System for Banking Infrastructure (CISBI) in which they will submit information related to opening/ closing/ conversion of branches, offices, non-administratively independent offices (extension counters, satellite offices), and customer service points (ATMs- Automated Teller Machines) in a single proforma online.
October 14
1. Which agreement is signed between Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Government of India (GoI)?
Answer: Tranche 2 loan
Explanation:
- On October 12, 2019, The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India (GoI) has signed the **Tranche 2 loan agreement worth $190 million to upgrade 754 kilometres of Rajasthan state highways** and major district roads (MDRs) to two-lane or intermediate-lane standards.
- Related Keys:
  - ADB Formation: 19 December 1966
  - ADB Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines
  - ADB Membership: 68 countries

2. Which organization has decided to launch Indian life insurance industry’s first joint mass media campaign?
Answer: Life Insurance Council
Explanation:
- **Life Insurance Council** has decided to launch Indian life insurance industry’s first joint mass media campaign with the slogan **‘Sabse Pehle Life Insurance’** (first thing is life insurance) within a month whose total cost will be around **Rs 100 crore**.
- For this purpose, **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India will provide Rs 40 crore**. It will be a joint effort of 24 Indian life insurance companies.
- Related Keys:
  - Life Insurance Council was constituted under Sec.64C of Insurance Act 1938.
  - Life Insurance Council Tagline: Together in service
  - Life Insurance Council Secretary: V Manickam

October 15
1. Which bank launched a new Fixed deposit (FD) scheme called “FD health” which provides investors a complimentary critical illness cover on 33 critical illnesses for the customers?
Answer: ICICI Bank
Explanation:
- On October 14, 2019, **Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI Bank)** launched a new Fixed deposit (FD) scheme called “FD health” which provides investors a complimentary critical illness cover on 33 critical illnesses for the customers who are in the age bracket of 18-50 years.
- Related Keys:
  - ICICI Bank Headquarters: Mumbai
o MD & CEO: Sandeep Bakhshi

October 16
1. Which bank has decided to operationalise unified Department of Supervision (DoS) & Department of Regulation (DoR) with effect from November 1, 2019?
Answer: Reserve Bank of India
Explanation:
- In order to strengthen its oversight of commercial banks, urban co-operative banks (UCBs) and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs), the country’s central bank, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to operationalise unified Department of Supervision (DoS) & Department of Regulation (DoR) with effect from November 1, 2019.
Related Keys
- RBI Formation: 1 April 1935
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- RBI Governor: Shaktikanta Das

October 18
1. Which two nations are visited by President Ram Nath Kovind in October month?
Answer: Philippines and Japan
Explanation:
- President Ram Nath Kovind will be on a two-nation visit to the Philippines and Japan from October 17th to 23rd October. President is visiting Japan to attend the enthronement ceremony of the Emperor of Japan Naruhito.
- The President will be in the Philippines from October 17th to 21st and in Japan from October 21st to 23rd.
Related Keys
- In May 2019, Naruhito became the 126th Emperor of Japan.

2. In which country second edition of Indo-French Knowledge Summit held?
Answer: France
Explanation:
- The second edition of Indo-French Knowledge Summit is being held from 17-18 October 2019 at University of Lyon in France. The summit is dedicated to higher education, research and innovation.
- The two-day summit is being organised by Embassy of France in India in association with Union Ministry of Science and Technology and Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry.
Related Keys
- First Edition Indo-French Knowledge Summit held on March 10-11, 2018
- First Edition Summit held at New Delhi

October 19
1. Which payment feature is launched by SBI?
October 20

1. Which Ministry notified that banks will not levy charges or merchant discount rate (MDR) on digital payments to the customers or merchants of the businesses with an annual turnover of more than Rs.50 crore from 1 November, 2019?

Answer: Ministry of Finance

Explanation:
- On October 18, 2019, the Ministry of Finance notified that banks will not levy charges or merchant discount rate (MDR) on digital payments to the customers or merchants of the businesses with an annual turnover of more than Rs.50 crore from 1 November, 2019.
- This move is to encourage digital payments and they will have to mandatorily offer electronic mode of payments to their customers from the said date.

Key points:
- In this regard, amendments have been made in the Income Tax Act 1961 and in the Payment and Settlement Systems Act 2007.
- The circular was issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).

October 25

1. What is the rank of India in World Bank’s Ease of Doing Business ranking released on October 24, 2019?

Answer: 63

Explanation:
- India was ranked 63rd in World Bank’s Ease of Doing Business ranking released on October 24, 2019. The ranking comes when the leading financing institutions including RBI, World Bank and IMF are slashing country’s growth forecasts. In 2014, India was ranked 142 among 190 countries.
- As compared to 2018, India moved up 14 places in the ranking mainly due to several reforms in the trade and commerce sector.

Related Keys
- World Bank’s Founded on 1944
- World Bank’s Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
India?

**Answer:** Employees Provident Fund Organisation

**Explanation:**
- Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) started crediting interest to its six crore subscribers spread throughout India, provident fund account holders warned against a fraud.
- The EPFO officials and seek personal details like Aadhaar card number, PAN card number, or even UAN (Universal Account Number), its password, or an OTP to siphon off money from your EPF account. The EPFO asked subscribers not to share these details with anyone over phone or email, as this could lead to fraud.

**Related Keys:**
- EPFO Founded on 4 March 1952
- Headquarter: New Delhi

**October 30**

1. Which bank is imposed a penalty of Rs 35 lakh by Reserve Bank of India for violating norms on frauds classification and notification?

**Answer:** Tamilnad Mercantile Bank

**Explanation:**
- The Reserve Bank has imposed a penalty of Rs 35 lakh on Tamilnad Mercantile Bank for violating norms on frauds classification and notification. The RBI said in a release that it imposed the fine via an order dated October 24, 2019.
- It stated that the bank has been penalised for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions issued by RBI on frauds classification and reporting by commercial banks and selected FIIs directions 2016.

**Related Keys:**
- RBI Headquarters: Mumbai
- RBI Governor: Shaktikanta Das

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**ENVIRONMENT**

**October 1**

1. In which year an archaeological survey was first conducted in the vicinity of the Vaigai river from Theni district to Ramanathapuram district?

**Answer:** 2013

**Explanation:**
- As per the report, Keeladi—An Urban Settlement of Sangam Age on the Banks of River Vaigai, published by the TNAD (Tamil Nadu Archaeology Department), one of the 6 samples from cultural deposits unearthed during excavation at Keeladi at a depth of 353 cm and sent for carbon dating test in the Beta Analytic Lab, Miami, Florida, U.S (United States), goes back to 580 BCE (Before the Common Era).
Related Keys
- Keeladi in **Sivaganga district of Tamil Nadu**.
- An archaeological survey was first conducted in 2013 in the vicinity of the Vaigai river from **Theni district to Ramanathapuram district**

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