

# CA Fact Bytes

## Contents

<b>Business Awareness</b>	<b>2</b>
Business Appointments	2
Business, economy & trade	3
<b>General Awareness</b>	<b>7</b>
Personalities	7
People in news	12
Book Releases & Authors	22
Sports	23
Honours	33
Government Schemes	37
Government News	43
Science & Hi-Tech	49
Aerospace & Defence	50
India's Global Rankings	52
International News	54
Global Superlatives	58
International Appointments	60
World Forums	61
Important Days	63

**Business Awareness**  
**Business Appointments**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Personality</b>
MD, Microsoft India	Rajiv Kumar
MD & CEO, Vodafone-Idea	Ravinder Takkar
Director, ONGC	Rajesh Kumar Srivastava
CEO, Ayushman Bharat scheme	Indu Bhushan
Chairman, ITC	Sanjeev Puri

**Key Corporate Positions**

<b>Entity</b>	<b>Personality</b>
Chairman, SBI	Rajnish Kumar
CMD, SIDBI	Mohammad Mustafa
CEO, HDFC Bank	Aditya Puri
CEO, Standard Chartered India	Zarin Daruwala
Chairman, Tata Sons	N. Chandrasekaran
CEO, Infosys	Salil Parekh
CEO & MD, MCX	Mrugank Paranjape
CEO, NSE	Vikram Limaye
Chairman, BSE	Sethurathnam Ravi
MD & CEO, NCDEX	Vijay Kumar Venkataraman
Chairman, NASSCOM	Rishad Premji
Chairman, LIC	M R Kumar
MD & CEO, Yes Bank	Ravneet Gill
Head, Whatsapp India	Abhijit Bose
MD & CEO, Paytm Payments Bank	Satish Kumar Gupta
Editor, The Hindu	Suresh Nambath
MD, IDBI Bank	Rakesh Sharma
CEO, Pepsico India	Ramon Laguarta
MD, Facebook India	Ajit Mohan
CEO & MD, Axis Bank	Amitabh Chaudhry
COO & MD, ICICI	Sandeep Bakshi
Chairman, Colgate-Palmolive India	Mukul Deoras
MD, SBI	Anshula Kant
President, FICCI	Sandeep Somani

President & MD, General Motors India	Sanjiv Gupta
--------------------------------------	--------------

### Business Awards

Title	Category	Awardee
Forbes India Leadership Awards 2018	LifeTime Achievement Award 2018	TBA
	Best CEO - Private Sector	TBA
	Best CEO - MNC	TBA
	Entrepreneur of the Year	TBA
	Best Company-Public Sector	TBA
EY Entrepreneur of The Year Awards 2018	Lifetime Achievement Award	TBA
	EY Entrepreneur of 2019	

### Business, economy & trade

News	Narration
BSNL partnered with Paytm to let users connect to nearby Wi Fi hotspots	The partnership aims to bring a revolution in the adoption of public Wi-Fi. BSNL and Paytm are working together to enable more hotspot locations to increase the digital footprint. This move will boost the mission of a Digital and Connected India.
Kolkata-based Bandhan Bank merged with Ahmedabad-based Gruh Finance	The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has cleared the scheme of amalgamation for the merger. The scheme has been approved by NCLT's Kolkata and Ahmedabad benches. Reason for the merger: The merger aims to help the Bandhan Bank diversify its loan portfolio of Rs.45,400 crore
IndiGo partnered with SonyLIV to provide mobile entertainment services on domestic flights in 2019	To avail this "exclusive offer", IndiGo will provide a link to its flyers at the boarding counter through which they can avail the weekly subscription of SonyLIV for Rs 25

Kishore Biyani-led Future Group announced that Amazon plans to acquire a 49% stake in a group entity — Future Coupons Ltd.	A tie-up between the two would allow the Future Group to deleverage even as Amazon would get to push through the concept of converged retail.
Air India became the first Indian airline to fly over North Pole	The Delhi-San Francisco flight AI-173 took off at 4am with about 243 passengers on board. The flight flew over Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Russia and then overflowed North Pole by 12.27pm to cross over to the other side of Earth.
Reliance Jio partnered with Microsoft to offer cloud infra for businesses	Jio and Microsoft aim to enhance the adoption of leading technologies like data analytics, AI, cognitive services, blockchain, Internet of Things, and edge computing among small and medium enterprises to make them ready to compete and grow.
Flipkart launched Samarth, an online selling platform	The initiative aimed to support artisans, weavers, etc, by on-boarding them and helping them in the process of selling on the internet.
Microsoft acquired BlueTalon, a data privacy & governance startup for an undisclosed sum	BlueTalon works with leading Fortune 100 companies. It helps enterprises to set policies for how their employees can access their data.
Apple to acquire Intel's smartphone modem business for a transaction value of USD 1 billion	There are around 2,200 Intel employees will join Apple along with intellectual property, equipment and leases, the Cupertino-based iPhone. The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2019
Huawei overtook Apple to become World's second largest smartphone maker	According to statistics from the International Data Corp, Samsung has 21% market share in smartphone segment
Bharti Airtel and Hughes India merged to VSAT satellite operations in India	VSAT is used to provide satellite based telecom and internet access to individuals and enterprise users. HCIL is a subsidiary of broadband satellite networks and services provider Hughes Network Systems.
Reliance Industries surpassed the state-owned IOC to	The Mukesh Ambani-led conglomerate, in the FY 2018-19 reported a turnover of Rs 6.23 lakh crores vs Rs. 6.17 lakh crores posted by the IOC. It was

become the country's biggest company by revenue	also the most profitable company in the country with a net profit of more than double that of IOC
Samsung Electronics introduced the world's highest resolution image sensor	This is a step to meet the increasing demand for mobile devices with better image quality. Samsung expanded its 0.8-micrometer pixel image sensor lineup by introducing two new 0.8-micrometer pixel image sensors namely: 1. 64-megapixel ISOCELL Bright GW1 (for advanced handsets) 2.48-megapixel ISOCELL Bright GM2 (for flagship phones)
Wirecard joined hands with India to issue PAN cards	Wirecard, a German Payments Company announced that it would work with India to simplify the process of issuing tax identity cards which required for opening bank accounts, transfer money and complete business transactions. The deal between Wirecard and UTI Infrastructure Technology and Financial Services seeks to widen the distribution of PAN card.
RBI scraped NEFT, RTGS transaction charges, banks to pass on benefits	The RBI removed transaction charges levied by it for RTGS & NEFT systems to boost digital transactions. SBI currently charges between Re 1 and Rs 5 for NEFT transactions and between Rs 5 and Rs 50 for RTGS.
Facebook launched its first interactive Game Show titled "Confetti" in India	It is Facebook's first official show in India and will go on air starting 12 June 2019. It will air from Wednesday to Sunday on Facebook Watch, Facebook's dedicated video platform
Samsung partnered with Paisabazaar.com to offer financial products on Samsung Pay	Paisabazaar.com supports Samsung Pay users by providing a one-stop solution to their financial requirements. By using the facility, Samsung Pay users can apply for credit cards and personal loans from the platform
Mukesh Ambani led RIL acquired Iconic British Toy maker Hamleys for Rs. 620 crores	Reliance Brands Ltd acquired 100% equity shares of Hamleys Global Holdings Limited . This acquisition will catapult Reliance Brands to be a dominant player in the global toy retail industry. In India, Reliance has the master franchise for Hamleys & operates 88 stores across 29 cities

Dell emerged as the most trusted brand in India in 2019, according to the TRA Report 2019	Around 31% Brand Trust Index (BTI) difference from Dell, an auto brand Jeep attained a dramatic entry in the second spot. LIC and Amazon ranked on third and fourth spots . Apple and iPhone emerged as India’s fifth most trusted brand
---	--

### Launch news/Initiatives

Samsung unveiled ‘Good Vibes’ and ‘Relumino’ app	This apps will provide a strong communication tool for deaf-blind and enable people with low vision to see better
‘Meghdoot’ the mobile app launched by Minister for Earth Science, Science and Technology Dr. Harsh Vardhan to help farmers	It will provide forecast to farmers relating to temperature, rainfall, humidity, and wind speed and direction, which play critical roles in agricultural operations and how to take care of the crops and livestock. It has been developed by experts from the India Meteorological Department and Indian Institute of Tropical meteorology and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research
World’s first Women’s Cricket Magazine named ‘CRICZONE’ launched recently	Its first edition was launched in India, the magazine features Indian Women’s Cricket team vice-captain Smriti Mandhana as cover story. It is a one stop solution, exclusively dedicated to providing updates, articles, news, interviews etc from the world of women’s cricket
ElectionGuard, an open source software unveiled by Microsoft for secure voting	“Election Guard” is a supplement to paper ballots. It is verifiable as it allows the voters and third-party organizations to verify election results. It provides voter a unique code. During the process of voting, voters have an optional step which allows them to track their votes from the moment he/she casts it, after the voter has verified the selections are correct to the final step of counting the votes

ETMONEY became India's first comprehensive financial services app to integrate UPI as payment method	This integration will simplify mutual fund payment for millions of ETMONEY users. ETMONEY is owned by Times Internet, it is a part of the Times Group
--	---

## General Awareness

### Personalities

#### Appointments

(a) Chief Ministers	Personality
Karnataka	B.S. Yediyurappa (BJP)
Andhra Pradesh	Jagan Mohan Reddy (YSR Congress)
Arunachal Pradesh	Pema Khandu (BJP)
Sikkim	Prem Singh Tamang (Sikkim Krantikari Morcha)
Goa	Pramod Sawant (BJP )

(b) Governor	Personality
Andhra Pradesh	Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
Chhattisgarh	Anusuiya Uikey
Gujarat	Acharya Devvrat
Himachal Pradesh	Kalraj Mishra
Tripura	Ramesh Bais
West Bengal	Jagdeep Dhankar
Madhya Pradesh	Lalji Tandon
Bihar	Fagu Chauhan
Manipur	Padmanabha Acharya
Nagaland	R N Ravi
Uttar Pradesh	Anandiben Patel

(c) Union cabinet	Personality
Prime Minister	Narendra Modi
Defence	Raj Nath Singh
Home Ministry	Amit Shah

Road Transport and Highways; and Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	Nitin Gadkari
Finance; and Corporate Affairs	Nirmala Sitharaman
Chemicals and Fertilizers	D.V. Sadananda Gowda
Law and Justice; Communications; and Electronics and Information	Ravi Shankar Prasad
Women and Child Development; Textiles	Smriti Irani
Social Justice and Empowerment	Thaawar Chand Gehlot
Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Minister of Rural Development; and Minister of Panchayati Raj	Narendra Singh Tomar
External Affairs	S Jaishankar
Railways and Commerce and Industry	Piyush Goyal
17 <sup>th</sup> speaker of Lok Sabha	Om Birla
Environment, Forest and Climate Change; and Information and Broadcasting	Prakash Javadekar

<b>(d) Government</b>	<b>Personality</b>
Law Secretary	A K Mendiratta
Air Chief Marshal of India	Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria(replaced Birender Singh Dhanoa)
Principal Secretary to Prime Minister	P K Mishra
Principal Advisor to Prime Minister	P K Sinha
Chairman, Press Trust of India	Vijay Kumar Chopra (replaced N. Ravi)
Cabinet Secretary of India	Rajiv Gauba (replaced Pradeep Kumar Sinha)
Defence secretary	Ajay Kumar (replaced Sanjay Mitra)
Director General, BSF	V K Johri (replaced Rajni Kant Misra)
Finance secretary	Rajiv Kumar (replaced Subhas Chandra Garg)
Home secretary	Ajay Kumar Bhalla (replaced Rajiv Gauba)



Economic Affairs Secretary	Atanu Chakraborty (replaced Subhash Garg)
Chief, Research and Analysis Wing	Samant Goel
Director, Intelligence Bureau	Arvind Kumar
IMD Chief	Mrutyunjay Mohapatra
Chief of Naval Staff	Karambir Singh

**(d) Key positions held**

<b>Government/Defence</b>	<b>Personality</b>
RBI Deputy Governors	NS Vishwanathan
	BP Kanungo
	Mahesh Kumar Jain
MD & CEO, Indian Post Payments Bank	Suresh Sethi
Chief Election Commissioner	Sunil Arora (Replaced O P Rawat)
Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)	P C Mody
Chairman, UIDAI	J Satyanarayana
CEO, UIDAI	Ajay Bhushan Pandey
Central Admin. Tribunal (CAT)	Justice L. Narsimha Reddy
Director, CBI	Rishi Kumar Shukla
Governor, RBI	Shaktikanta Das (Replaced Urjit Patel)
NITI Aayog	Chairperson - Mr. Narendra Modi
	CEO - Amitabh Kant
	Vice Chairman - Rajiv Kumar
Chairman, National Human Rights Commission of India (NHRC)	Justice H.L. Dattu
National Security advisor to the Prime Minister	Ajit Doval
Director-General, CRPF	Rajiv Rai Bhatnagar
Chief of Army Staff	Lt Gen Bipin Rawat
Chief of Naval Staff	Admiral Sunil Lanba
Chairman, 7 <sup>th</sup> pay commission	Justice A K Mathur
Chairman, SEBI	Ajay Tyagi
President, CII	Rajesh Bharti Mittal
Attorney General of India	K K Venugopal
Director General, NSG (National Security Guard)	Sudeep Lakhtakia

Chairman, University Grant Commission	Dhirendra Pal Singh
Foreign secretary	Vijay Gokhale
CMD, Air India	Pradeep Singh Kharola
Chairman, 15 <sup>th</sup> Finance Commission	N K Singh
Chairman, Economic Advisory Committee	Bibek Debroy
Chairman, GSTN	Ajay Bhushan Pandey
Revenue secretary	Ajay Bhushan Pandey
Comptroller & Auditor General of India	Rajiv Mehrishi
Chairperson, Competition Commission of India	Ashok Kumar Gupta
Chairman, National Company Law Tribunal	M M Kumar
Chief Information Commissioner	Sudhir Bhargava
Chairman, Railway Board	V K Yadav
Chief Economic Advisor	Krishnamurthy Subramanian
Director General, CSIR (1942)	Shekhar Mande
Chairman, IRDA	Subhash Chandra Khuntia
Chairman, DRDO (1958)	G Satheesh Reddy
First CFO, RBI (1935)	Sudha Balakrishnan
CMD, NPCI	Biswamohan Mahapatra
Central Vigilance Commissioner	Sharad Kumar
Chairman, National Green Tribunal (2010)	Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel
President, ASSOCHAM	Balkrishana Goenka
Chief Justice of India	Ranjan Gogoi

<b>Others</b>	<b>Personality</b>
Chairman, FTII (1960)	B P Singh
Chairman, CBFC (1951)	Prasoon Joshi
Chairperson, National Commission for Women	Rekha Sharma

<b>Science Related (Estb year)</b>	<b>Name</b>
ISRO	K Sivan
TIFR (1945)	Sandip Trivedi
BARC (1954)	Director – A K Mohanty

Atomic Energy Commission of India	Chairman – K N Vyas
DRDO (1958)	Chairman - G Satheesh Reddy
Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (1963)	Director - S Somanath

## Deaths

Name	Narration
Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya recently passed away. She was the first ever woman Director-General of Police (DGP) in India	She retired as the DGP on October 31, 2007. After retirement, she took a plunge into politics by contesting the 2014 Lok Sabha elections on an Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) ticket from Haridwar constituency. However, she could not make it to the lower house of Parliament.
Former Finance minister and BJP stalwart, Arun Jaitley passed away	He held various posts such as Ministries of Commerce, Industry, Law & Justice, Information & Broadcasting, Finance, and Defence. Jaitley led the enactment of the *bankruptcy code and a national goods-and-services tax (GST) law during his tenure as Finance Minister.
Former external affairs minister and BJP stalwart, Sushma Swaraj passed away	She was the external affairs minister in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's cabinet from 26 May 2014 to 30 May, 2019, only the 2nd woman in the role of external affairs minister after Indira Gandhi.
Former Delhi CM Sheila Dikshit passed away	Sheila Dikshit was an Indian politician who was one of the longest-serving chief ministers of Delhi, as well as the longest-serving female chief minister of any Indian state, serving for a period of 15 years from 1998 to 2013. She was credited with the "all-round" development of the national capital.
Former Union Minister S Jaipal Reddy passed away	S Jaipal Reddy was a five-time member of Lok Sabha, four-time MLA and two-time Rajya Sabha member. In 1977, the former Minister quit the Congress in protest against former prime minister Indira Gandhi's imposition of the Emergency. In 1998, in IK Gujral cabinet he served as a Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting. After 21 years in 1999 he returned to Indian National Congress, he was elected as a Union Minister for the Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Ministry of Science and Technology from 29 October 2012 to 18 May 2014.

Veteran playwright, actor and director Girish Karnad passed away	Karnad, a recipient of Jnanpith Award was also conferred the Padma Shri in 1974 and the Padma Bhushan in 1992. He was an eminent playwright with some of the most successfully performed plays to his credit, such as "Nagmandala", "Yayati" and "Tughlaq". His autobiography Aadaadtha Ayushya was released in 2011
NR Madhava Menon Father of Modern legal education in India passed away	He was known for changing the face of Indian legal education by pioneering establishment of National Law Schools. He is credited with conceptualization of five year integrated LLB programs in India

### People in news

Name	Narration
Yalitza Aparicio was appointed as the UNESCO's goodwill ambassador for indigenous people in 2019	Ms Aparicio will contribute to UNESCO's work to ensure the integration of indigenous peoples everywhere and the realization of their rights, through the safeguard and celebration of indigenous cultural heritage, the inclusion of indigenous knowledge in environmental management, the preservation of biodiversity, adaptation to climate change, and equal access to education for indigenous peoples.
Indian woman chess player from Andhra Pradesh Koneru Humpy won Women's Grand Prix tournament 2019 held in Russia	The Indian grandmaster scored eight points in 11 games with six draws and five wins. She defeated Ju Wenjun from China.
Alyssa Healy created the world record of highest individual score in women's Twenty Twenty International cricket match in 2019.	She created the world record by scoring 148 runs off 61 balls against Sri Lanka in the third and final match at the North Sydney Oval in Australia. She surpassed teammate Meg Lanning's previous world record score of 133 runs.
The first ever politician to be house arrested under Public Safety Act was Farooq Abdulla	Abdullah served as the chief minister of the state of Jammu and Kashmir three times and is a member of the upper house of India's Parliament. Two other former state chief

	ministers, Omar Abdullah, Farooq Abdullah's son, and Mehbooba Mufti, were also detained
A minor Planet has been named after Indian classical vocalist Pandit Jasraj	It has initially named as 2006 VP32 (Number - 300128). It is located between Mars and Jupiter.
Kenyan Eliud Kipchoge became the first person to run a marathon in under two hours	He recorded history by completing a 26.2-mile marathon in less than two hours.
PepsiCo India named Hima Das as brand ambassador for its sports drink brand Gatorade in 2019.	The 19-year old joins athletes P.V. Sindhu and Neeraj Chopra who also promote the brand in India.
Australian Megan Schutt became the first woman to claim two white-ball hat-tricks	Her feat enabled Australia women to bowl out West Indies women for a paltry 180. Schutt had claimed her first hat-trick in a Twenty20 game against India in March 2018
Sarah Thomas became the first person to swim across the English Channel four times non-stop in a 54-hour feat of endurance.	The swim was due to be about 80 miles but because of strong tides Ms Thomas ended up swimming closer to 130 miles.
Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce became the first person to win four gold medals over the distance at the athletics world championships 2019.	The Jamaican blew away a world-class field in a time of 10.71 seconds to claim her fourth world championship title in the discipline and eighth world title overall.
P V Sindhu has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Visa in 2019.	Visa is the payment technology company. It has appointed her for 2 years. She will be promoting the brand through advertising campaigns. Apart from this, Sindhu has become an athlete member of Team Visa for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.
Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan became the youngest state governor at the age of 58.	She is the governor of Telangana. She is the chief of Tamil Nadu BJP.
Kenya's Brigid Kosgei runs fastest-ever women's half-marathon	Brigid Kosgei ran the fastest ever half-marathon by a woman by winning the Great North Run in a time of one hour, four minutes and 28 seconds

Lasith Malinga is the first ever bowler to take 100 wickets in T20 format	Malinga became the first-ever bowler in T20Is to scalp 4 wickets in 4 balls. He achieved this during the 2nd T20 international between Sri Lanka and New Zealand in 2019.
Jack Ma founder & Chairman of Chinese firm Alibaba Group stepped down from his position in 2019.	Daniel Zhang is appointed as the Chief Executive of Alibaba.
S Dhami became the first flight Commander of a flying unit	Dhami took over as Flight Commander of a Chetak helicopter unit at Hindon airbase. She is a permanent commission officer of the flying branch in the Air Force and has been flying choppers.
Former Finance Minister P Chidambaram was arrested by the CBI in relation to the INX Media Case	The CBI has registered an FIR alleging irregularities in FIPB clearance given to INX media for receiving funds from abroad to the tune of Rs. 305 crores. It is alleged that Chidambaram received kick backs and tweaked FDI rules to allow excessive flow of foreign investments into INX firm
Aishwarya Pissay became the first ever Indian to win a world title in motorsports during FIM World Cup 2019	The 23-year-old from Bengaluru lifted the FIM World Cup in the women's category after the final round of the championship in Hungary
Ellyse Perry became the first ever player to reach 1000 runs and 100 wickets in T20Is cricket	Perry took her 100 <sup>th</sup> wicket by dismissing Nat Sciver in the World T20 final
Renowned Indian sand artist and Padma Awardee Sudarsan Pattnaik won People's Choice Award	He bagged the 'People's Choice Award' for his sand art on plastic pollution with message 'Stop Plastic Pollution, Save Our Ocean'. Through his sand sculpture he wanted to highlight that human activity is destroying the oceans and humans are also getting impacted by polluted waterways as they consume food from sea/rivers
Mary Kom won the gold medal in 51 kg category at 23 <sup>rd</sup> President's Cup held Indonesia in 2019.	Mary defeated April Franks of Australia 5-0. Mary claimed her sixth world title last year in Delhi & plans to qualify for 2020 Tokyo

	Olympics, during the World Championships in Russia
Priti Patel became UK's First Indian-Origin Home Secretary	She was appointed by new UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Patel of Conservative Party succeeds Pakistani-origin Sajid Javid.
Sachin Tendulkar was inducted into the International Cricket Council's Hall of Fame	He became the sixth Indian cricketer to join the list of international players. The Indian former cricketers in the list are Bishan Singh Bedi, Kapil Dev, Rahul Dravid, Sunil Gavaskar, Anil Kumble
Sarabjot Singh won India's ninth gold in ISSF Junior World Cup	Sarabjot Singh scored 239.6 to bag the men's 10m air pistol gold, country's ninth yellow metal at the event. There are around nine gold, nine silver and four bronze around 22 medals India swept both the men's and women's 10 metres
Justice AK Sikri is appointed as an international judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC)	Justice Sikri will assume charge as an international judge with effect from August 1. His term will expire on January 4, 2021. SICC deals with international commercial disputes and has 16 international judges in its panel.
FanMojo appointed Prithvi Shaw as its brand ambassador	FanMojo is a fantasy sports platform and it is owned by mobile tech company U2opia Global. Prithvi Pankaj Shaw is an Indian cricketer and former India national under-19 cricket team captain.
Fitness brand Reebok appointed Bollywood actress Katrina Kaif as new brand ambassador in India.	This will enhance Reebok's commitment to be the best fitness brand in India
Virat Kohli became the fastest batsman to reach 20,000 international runs	He achieved this milestone in only his 417th international innings (comprising 131 in Tests, 223 in ODIs and 62 in T20Is.), surpassing the previous record held by Sachin Tendulkar and Brian Lara
India's all-rounder Yuvraj Singh, announced retirement from all forms of cricket	He played 40 test matches, 304 ODI's and 58 T20I's. He also won the Man of the Tournament in the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup and was the top performer in 2007 ICC World Twenty20 in which India won the tournament.

Jay-Z is the World's first Billionaire Rapper as per Forbes Magazine 2019 list	The 49 years older rapper, husband of the singer Beyonce, has a wealth of USD 1bn
Thawar Chand Gehlot, the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, was appointed the Leader of the House for the Rajya Sabha	He will replace senior BJP leader Arun Jaitley who opted out of the government citing health reasons. Gehlot is an experienced parliamentarian from and a Dalit face of the saffron party
Flight Lieutenant Mohana Singh became the first IAF woman pilot to fly Hawk jets	She landed after a grueling 4-aircraft combat sortie at Kalaikunda Air Force station in West Bengal. The other women officers - Bhawana Kanth and Avani Chaturvedi - joined the fighter stream in June 2016.
Anita Bhatia appointed as Deputy Executive Director in UN Women	Indian-origin Anita Bhatia, a veteran in strategic partnerships, resource mobilization, and management, has been appointed by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres as the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for Resource Management, Sustainability, and Partnerships.
Rihanna has been named the world's richest female musician by Forbes magazine 2019	The singer's worth is estimated at USD 600m, including revenues made from her fashion and beauty lines in addition to those from her music career.
Saray Khumalo became the first black african women to conquer Mt. Everest in her fourth attempt	South African climber, Saray Khumalo successfully completed her descent from the top of Mount Everest just over two days after climbing the mountain
Chandrani Murmu became the youngest Indian MP	A tribal woman from Odisha, Chandrani Murmu aged 25 of Biju Janata Dal (BJD) party became the youngest MP in the country. She defeated the two-time BJP MP Ananta Nayak by a margin of 66,203 votes and claimed the Keonjhar constituency, Odisha. She replaced Dushyant Chautala who was elected at the age of 26 from the Hisar Lok Sabha seat in 2014.
Tara Sharif' score highest points in Mensa IQ Test	An 11-year-old Iranian school girl scored the highest points in Mensa IQ Test leaving behind



	<p>world renowned scientists Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking.</p> <p>Tara Sharif's astonishing 162 point score indicates that she is above the so called 'genius benchmark' of 140</p>
Virat Kohli and Rishabh Pant were named as the brand ambassadors of Himalaya MEN Face Care	The Himalaya Drug Company plans to promote the first latest commercial of Himalaya Men "Looking Good And Loving It" with both the players
Flight Lieutenant Bhawana Kanth became the first ever woman IAF pilot to qualify for Combat Missions	This comes after she completed her day operational syllabus as a fighter pilot on the MiG-21 Bison supersonic aircraft at the Nal airbase in Bikaner.
India's Aarohi Pandit is the first female to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in light plane	Aarohi Pandit, took up the mission of flying for 120 hours and covered around 37,000 kilometres in the past 10 months. The journey ended at Canada's Iqaluit airport. Pandit flies a Sinus 912 aircraft which was built in Slovenia. Known to be highly fuel efficient, the aircraft is called Mahi.
Sanjeev Puri appointed as the chairman of ITC	Mr. Puri has been the Managing Director since 2018. He was appointed on the board in December 2015 and as the CEO in February 2017. He joined the ITC in 1986 and handled various responsibilities, including as chief of FMCG business that comprises cigarettes, foods, personal care education and stationery and matches and agarbathies.
BharatPe ropes in Salman Khan as Brand Ambassador	BharatPe is a merchant service and UPI payments app. The new Campaign will be directed towards instructing merchants and users about UPI payments along with driving adoption of BharatPe app for all their business needs.
GS Lakshmi became the first ever woman on the ICC International Panel of Match Referees	Lakshmi first officiated as a match referee in domestic women's cricket in 2008-09, has overseen three women's ODI matches and three women's T20I matches
CEAT International Cricket Awards 2019: Virat Kohli and	Kohli scored 10,843 runs in the One-Day Internationals (ODI) and 6613 runs in the

Smriti Mandhana won International Cricketers of the Year Award	longest format. Smriti Mandhana has scored 1951 runs in the ODIs and 1298 runs in the shortest format. <b>Lifetime Achievement Award</b> - Mohinder Amarnath
Virat Kohli is the first cricketer in the world ever to break into the 100 million category for followers on social media	Virat Kohli has Facebook (37.1 million), Twitter (29.4 million) and Instagram (33.5 million) followers to his name
Sculptor Anish Kapoor ranked first on Hurun India Art List 2019 with estimated sales of Rs. 168.25 crore	The next positions were held by Akbar Padamsee whose 38 works were sold for Rs. 45.84 crore. He was followed by Krishen Khanna with sales of 44 works of Rs. 9.5 crore
Jeff Bezos has unveiled a mock-up of a new lunar lander spacecraft that aims to take equipment and humans to the Moon by 2024.	The aim is for Blue Moon to land on the south pole of the Moon, where ice deposits have been found in craters. The water derived from that ice can be broken down to produce hydrogen, which could then fuel up the spacecraft for further missions across the solar system.

### Entities in News

Entities	Narration
Jaipur railway station topped Indian Railways Station Cleanliness Survey 2019 in non-suburban category	Jodhpur & Durgapura ranked at second and third position in non-suburban category. Andheri station topped the list ranking over 105 suburban station, followed by Virar & Naigaon. Perungalathur station, near Chennai, ranked at the bottom of the list
India's first ever plant to produce diesel from plastic waste launched in Mathura	
The first e-waste clinic of India will be set up in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.	It will be formed in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. The electronic waste will be collected door-to-door or can be deposited directly at the clinic in exchange for a fee.

Guwahati was chosen to host the 2020 Khelo India Youth Games	The Games will see a participation of more than 10,000 athletes and officials. It will be conducted in partnership with IOA, SGFI & Assam as host State
India's first National Antimicrobial Resistance Hub opened in Kolkata in 2019	It aimed at helping countries decide the allocation of resources for research and development (R&D) on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) by identifying gaps and overlaps. It will also promote coordination among governments in the fight against AMR.
India has announced a complete ban on electronic cigarettes, citing the need to take early action to protect public health.	A ban on e-cigarettes which covers their production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement. The ban includes e-hookahs and online sale and advertisement of e-cigarettes. Violations are a cognisable offence punishable with imprisonment of up to one year or fine up to Rs 1 lakh or both for the first offence and imprisonment of up to three years and fine up to Rs 5 lakh for a subsequent offence.
Kandangi Saree recently got GI-tag	Kandangi saree is manually made using a winding machine, loom, shuttle and bobbin. It is originated from Tamil Nadu
India's first-ever sky cycling park opened in Manali	Visitors will be able to cycle at a height of 9000 ft for a distance of 350 m
Asia's only 5th Generation - Virtual Reality based Advanced Driver Training Simulator Centre was launched in Chennai in 2019	In the first 6 months, AASI will train 200 Ambulance drivers free of cost, under 'Safe Drivers Campaign'. At a very nominal cost of Rs 100 for an 8-minute session, existing drivers can make use of this simulator to learn the advanced techniques of driving and implement it in their day to day driving style.
India's first greenfield industrial smart city is unveiled in Aurangabad	The smart city has been developed as part of the Delhi Mumbai industrial corridor
According to the SARAL released by the Ministry of New and	Telangana, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh come next in the rankings but all four have been

Renewable Energy in 2019, Karnataka emerged as the best state for setting up a rooftop solar project.	graded A++. The steps taken by the better performing states will be circulated among all other states so that they can emulate the adopted models.
According to NASA the data released by environmental NGO Greenpeace in 2019, India is the world's largest emitter of anthropogenic sulphur dioxide	India has more than 15% of all anthropogenic sulphur dioxide. Sulphur dioxide is produced from coal burning, and greatly contributes to air pollution.
Mumbai University recently received the prestigious UNESCO Asia-Pacific award	It received the award for cultural heritage conservation work undertaken at the Rajabai Tower and the library block.
As per the announcement from Commonwealth Games Federation, Shooting has been excluded and Womens cricket has been included in Commonwealth Games 2022	India has threatened to boycott the CWG 2022 over shooting's absence. Cricket will come back to the Commonwealth Games for the first time since 1998 with the inclusion of women's T20
Pathamadai Silk Mat was granted a GI tag in 2019.	The traditional art of weaving pattamadai silk mat belongs to Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu. It is made up of Korai grass.
India's first 3-D smart traffic signal 'Intelights' designed by Chitkara University students was launched in Mohali, Punjab	Intelights proposes a 360 degree solution to curb the rising problem of traffic congestion. One of the major reasons for traffic congestion is the inefficient working of traffic signal timers installed at intersections.
India's fastest train 'Vande Bharat Express' completed 1 Lakh kilometers without missing a single trip	It was flagged off by Mr. Narendra Modi under 'Make In India' Initiative, on February 15, 2019, from New Delhi to Varanasi. This 16 coach train began its commercial run from February 17, 2019
India's first natural Ice Cafe has started at a height of 14,000 feet in Ladakh	The ice cafe is located on the Manali-Leh Highway. It is created by natural process by the Border Road Organisation (BRO) officials, with the help of some locals during winters. It is built in the shape of a mound with the purpose of saving water in winter and using it later for irrigation purposes when the ice melts in spring.

India's first Tree Ambulance initiated in Chennai by Green man of India	The initiative was proposed by Green man of India, Dr K Abdul Ghani and is sponsored by the SASA Group. Services provided by Tree Ambulance first-aid treatment are uprooted tree planting, seed bank, seed ball distribution, plant distribution, aiding tree plantation, shifting trees, a survey of trees and removal of dead trees
'Orchha town' of Madhya Pradesh has been added to the list of UNESCO's World Heritage Site.	The architectural heritage of 'Orchha town' of Madhya Pradesh depicts a unique style of the Bundela dynasty. It is situated on the bank of river betwa. It is famous for the Chaturbhuj temple, Raja Mahal & Orchha fort complex
India's longest electrified railway tunnel commissioned in Andhra Pradesh	It is situated between Cherlopalli and Rapuru stations in Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh. It is constructed in the shape of a Horse Shoe. The length of the tunnel is 6.6 kilometers, height (rail level to roof) is 6.5 metres and Minimum height of contact wire is maintained at 5.2 metres.
India to celebrate the 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of victory in Operation VIJAY	Operation VIJAY is popularly known as the Kargil War. The Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrations for the year 2019 will be spread over three days from 25-27 July 2019 and organized in Dras & New Delhi
Kerala topped NITI Aayog's health index 2019 ranking	Next to Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra emerged as the second and third best performers respectively, on health parameters. Kerala secured an overall score of 74.01, while UP was the least performing state with an overall score of 28.61
Track body IAAF renamed as World Athletics	The international governing body for the sport of athletics, International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) is to change its name as World Athletics
Amasebailu became the first 100% Solar power village in Karnataka	Amasebailu is a small village situated on the left bank of Haldi river in Udipi. It is tagged as a Solar Gram Panchayat with about 1858 houses illuminated with solar lamps

Mumbai ranked first among 403 global cities in Traffic Index 2018 study	Mumbai ranked first in the study, 'Traffic Index-2018', by location technology specialist TomTom, with a congestion level of 65%. New Delhi ranked fourth with a congestion level of 58%
Pink city Jaipur declared as a World Heritage Site By UNESCO	At the 43rd Session of UNESCO World Heritage Committee 2019 in Azerbaijan, the UNESCO added the 'Pink City' Jaipur of Rajasthan into the list of the World Heritage Sites. Jaipur is known for its iconic architectural legacy. With Jaipur's inclusion, the number of heritage sites across India on the UNESCO World Heritage list, increased to 38. Ahmedabad became the first Indian city to get into the list in 2017.
Delhi Metro Station became India's first project to receive power from waste-to-energy	The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) receiving 2 MW power from a 12 MW capacity waste-to-energy plant set up in Ghazipur
The 158 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Tagore was celebrated on the 9 <sup>th</sup> May, 2019	Rabindra Nath Tagore, Asia's first Nobel laureate and composer of India's National Anthem. Tagore reshaped Bengali literary work, music and also started the Vishwa Bharati University in Shantiniketan. Rabindranath Tagore received the Nobel Prize for literature for his acclaimed collection of poems in 'Geetanjali'. The birth anniversary of Tagore is also known as 'Pochishe Boishakh'

### Book Releases & Authors

Book	Author
Listening, Learning and Leading	Venkaiah Naidu
Gutsy Women	Hilary Clinton and Chelsea Clinton
Kargil: Untold stories from the War	The 20th anniversary of the Kargil War a new book authored by <b>Rachna Bisht Rawat</b> released in New Delhi
Lessons Life Taught Me, Unknowingly	Anupham Kher

## Sports

Event	Highlights
Cricket World Cup 2019 (England & Wales) (30th May -14th July)	Participating Teams - 10 In the grand finale of ICC Cricket World Cup 2019 (CWC 19), England cricket team defeated New Zealand cricket team in the Super Over thriller to lift their maiden World Cup title <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Most runs</b> - 648 - Rohit Sharma(India)</li> <li>• <b>Most wickets</b> - 27 - Mitchel Starc(Australia)</li> <li>• <b>Player of the Series</b> - Kane Williamson(New Zealand)</li> </ul>

## Individual Sports

### Hockey

Event	Location	Highlights
Champions Trophy 2019	TBA	TBA
5 <sup>th</sup> Asian Women's Hockey Champions Trophy 2019	TBA	TBA

### Kabaddi

Event	Location	Highlights
Pro Kabaddi League 2019 (Season 7)	Multiple venues	TBA

### Tennis

Event	Location	Highlights
The China open 2019	China	<b>Men's Singles:</b> Dominic Thiem, Austria <b>Women's Singles:</b> Naomi Osaka, Japan defeated Ashleigh Barty (Australia) <b>Men's Doubles:</b> Ivan Dodig / Slovakia Filip Polášek, Croatia <b>Women's Doubles:</b> Sofia Kenin / United States Bethanie Mattek-Sands, the United States
The US open 2019	The US	<b>Men's singles title</b> -Rafael Nadal won his 19th Major title and 4th US Open title, by defeating Daniil Medvedev, 7–5, 6–3, 5–7, 4–6, 6–4 to win the Men's Singles tennis title at finals

		<b>Women's single title</b> - Bianca Andreescu won her first Grand Slam title, defeating Serena Williams in the final, 6–3, 7–5 to win the Women's Singles tennis title.
2019 Rogers Cup	Canada	<b>Men's singles</b> - Spanish Rafael Nadal defeated Daniil Medvedev to win the Men's singles title
Australian Open 2019	Australia	<b>Men's singles</b> - Novak Djokovic (world no 1 from Serbia) defeated Spanish Rafael Nadal (world no 2) to win the Men's singles title
Davis Cup 2019	TBA	TBA
Wimbledon 2019 Men's Singles	London	Novak Djokovic (Serbia) defeated Roger federer(Switzerland) to win the Men's singles title
Wimbledon 2019 Women's Singles		Simona Halep (Romania) defeated Serena Williams(The US) to win the womens singles title
The US open 2019	TBA	TBA
French open 2019	Paris	<b>Men's singles title</b> - Rafael Nadal (Spain) won his 11 <sup>th</sup> French open title by defeating Dominic Thiem (Australian). He is only the second player in history to win the same Grand Slam 11 times other than Margaret Court (11 Australian Open titles)
		<b>Women's single title</b> - Ashleigh Barty (Australia) won her first grand slam title by defeating Markéta Vondroušová (Czech)

### Cricket

Tournament	Location	Narration
Irani Trophy 2019-20	TBA	TBA
Ranji Trophy 2019-20	TBA	TBA
2019 ICC Women's International T20 world cup	TBA	TBA
Vijay Hazare Trophy 2019-20	TBA	TBA
Deodhar Trophy 2019	TBA	TBA



India won U-19 Asia Cricket Cup 2019	TBA	TBA
Men's Asia Cup 2019	TBA	TBA
Women's Asia Cup T20 2019	TBA	TBA

### Badminton

Event	Location	Narration
2019 Badminton World Championships	Basel, Switzerland	PV Sindhu became the first Indian to win the BWF World Championships, She defeated Japan's Nozomi Okuhara 21-7, 21-7 in just 38 minutes in a one-sided final
2019 Indonesia Masters title	TBA	TBA
BWF World Tour Final Tournament 2019	TBA	TBA
Asia Badminton Junior Championship 2019	TBA	TBA
Thailand Open 2019	TBA	TBA

### Athletics

Event	Location	Winner
Athletics Meet 2018	Sotteville, France	TBA
World U-20 Championships 2018	Finland	TBA

### Shooting

Event	Location	Winner
ISSF Shooting World Championship	Changwon	TBA

## Football

Event	Location	Winner
Durand Cup 2019	West Bengal	Gokulam Kerala FC defeated Mohun Bagan in the final to win the tournament

Formula One	Winner
2019 Singapore Grand Prix	Sebastian Vettel
2019 German Grand Prix	Max Verstappen

Upcoming events	Location
46 <sup>th</sup> Copa America 2019	Brazil
37 <sup>th</sup> National Games 2019	Andhra Pradesh
Summer Olympics 2020	Tokyo
37 <sup>th</sup> Men's Hockey Champions Trophy 2019	Netherlands
13 <sup>th</sup> South Asian Federation Games 2019	Kathmandu

General Awards	Awardees	Achievement
National Tourism Awards 2017-18 (Presented in 2019)	Andhra Pradesh	Best State award
	Orchha	Best Heritage city
	Goa and Madhya Pradesh	Best State for Adventure Tourism
	Dhordo	Most Responsible Tourism project award
Dr BC Roy National Award 2019 (Eminent Medical Person of the Year category)	TBA	TBA

Chief Minister of the 2019 Award	TBA	TBA
Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award 2019	TBA	TBA

<b>International</b>	<b>Awardee</b>	<b>Role</b>
Ramon Magsaysay 2019 (Dubbed as Asian version of Nobel prize)	Ravish Kumar(India)	Kumar is NDTV India's senior executive editor is one of India's most influential TV journalists. He was given his own daily show, "Prime Time." "Prime Time" programme "deals with real-life, under-reported problems of ordinary people"
	Ko Swe Win(Myanmar)	She is editor-in-chief of the Yangon-based investigative news outlet Myanmar
	Angkhana Neelapaijit(Thailand)	She is a Thai human rights activist
	Raymundo Pujante Cayabyab(Philippines)	Ryan Cayabyab, also known as Mr. C, is a Filipino musician, composer and conductor; he was Executive and Artistic Director for several years
	Kim Jong-Ki(South Korea)	Kim Jong-un is a North Korean politician currently the Supreme Leader of North Korea since 2011
Abel Prize 2019	Karen Uhlenbeck (First ever woman)	For her work on "analysis, geometry and mathematical physics". She is also an advocate for gender equality in science and mathematics
Pritzker Architecture Prize 2019	Japanese architect Arata Isozaki	For his major work including Museum of Contemporary

		Art in Los Angeles, Palau Saint Jordi indoor sporting arena in Barcelona.
Israel's prestigious Dan David Prize 2019	Sanjay Subrahmanyam	The Indian historian won the award for work on inter-cultural encounters between Asians, Europeans and people of North and South America during the early modern era
Gandhi Peace Prize 2019	TBA	TBA
UN Human Rights Prize 2019	TBA	TBA
	TBA	TBA
	TBA	TBA
	TBA	TBA
International Children's Peace Prize 2019	TBA	TBA
The UN's highest environmental honour 'Champions of the Earth'	TBA	TBA
World Food prize 2019 (Dubbed Nobel Prize for food and agriculture)	TBA	TBA
First World Agriculture Prize 2019	TBA	TBA
2019 Rights Livelihood award	Holly Gillibrand	-
45 <sup>th</sup> Tyler Prize for environmental achievement 2019	TBA	TBA

<b>Beauty Pageants</b>	<b>Winner</b>
Miss World 2019	TBA
Miss India World 2019	Suman Rao (Rajasthan)
Miss Universe 2019	TBA

Miss International 2019	TBA
Miss Supranational 2019	TBA
Mr. Supranational 2019	TBA

Movie Awards	Category	Winners
Dada Saheb Phalke award in 2018	-	Amitabh Bachchan
19 <sup>th</sup> IIFA awards 2019, Mumbai	Best Actor	Ranveer Singh for Padmaavat
	Best Actress	Alia Bhatt for Raazi
	Best Film	Raazi
	Best Director	Sriram Raghavan for Andhadhun
	Lifetime Achievement Award	Legendary actor and comedian, Jagdeep
National Film Awards 2019	Best Actor	Ayushmann Khurrana(Andhadhun) and Vicky Kaushal(Uri)
	Best Actress	Keerthy Suresh(Mahanati)
	Best Feature Film	Hellaro (Gujarati)
	Best Director	Aditya Dhar(Uri: The Surgical Strike)
64 <sup>th</sup> Filmfare Awards 2019	TBA	
91 <sup>st</sup> Academy Awards	TBA	
71 <sup>st</sup> Cannes' Film Festival, 2019	Palme d'Or	TBA
	Grand Prix	TBA
11 <sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Screen Awards 2019, Brisbane	TBA	TBA
		TBA
49 <sup>th</sup> IFFI 2018, Goa	TBA	

--	--	--

<b>Music/Theatre</b>	<b>Awardee</b>	<b>Achievement</b>
61 <sup>st</sup> Grammy Awards 2019	TBA	TBA
Pulitzer Prize 2019	TBA	
Tansen Samman 2019	TBA	
Kalidas Samman 2019 (Visual Arts)	TBA	

<b>Sports Awards (Inception Yr)</b>	<b>Awardee</b>	<b>Narration</b>
Laureus World Sports Awards 2019	TBA	
ICC Awards 2019	TBA	
2019 Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award	TBA	
ATP World Tour Awards 2019	TBA	
Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award 2019	Manuel Fredricks	Hockey
	Arup Basak	Table tennis
	Manoj Kumar	Wrestling
	C Lalremsanga	Archery

	Nitten Kirrtane	Tennis
Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna (1991)	Deepa Malik	Para-athletics
	Bajrang Punia	Wrestling
Arjuna Awards (1961)	There are total 19 awardees. Some of them are:	
	Ravindra Jadeja	Cricket
	Sonia Lather	Boxing
	Poonam Yadav	Cricket
	Simran Singh Shergill	Polo
Dronacharya Award (Regular category) (1985)	Vimal Kumar	Badminton
	Sandeep Gupta	Table tennis
	Mohinder Singh Dhillon	athletics
Dronacharya Award (Lifetime Category)	Mezban Patel	Hockey
	Rambir Singh Khokar	Kabaddi
	Sanjay Bhardwaj	Cricket
Polly Umrigar award		
BCCI's best international cricketer (women)	TBA	
European Golden Shoe Award 2019	TBA	
Best player in Europe by UEFA for 2018/19	TBA	
Player of the Year – World Soccer Awards 2019	Lionel Messi	Football
Ballon d'Or award 2019	TBA	
IAAF World Athlete of the Year 2019	TBA	

<b>Civilian Gallantry Awards 2019</b>	<b>Awardees</b>
Vir Chakra	(IAF) Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman
Kirti Chakra	Army's Sapper Prakash Jadhav(posthumously) & CRPF, Harshpal Singh

Shaurya Chakra	Awarded to Eight Army personnel
Ashok Chakra	TBA

Literature (Inception year)	Awardees	Piece of work
Man Booker Prize 2019	Margaret Atwood & Bernardine Evaristo	Canadian author Margaret Atwood's won the prize for the book- 'The Testament' and Bernardine Evaristo won the prize for the book titled 'Girl, Woman, Other'. Evaristo is the first black woman to win prestigious award since its creation in 1969.
The Man Booker International 2019	Oman author Jokha Al Harthi	Jokha Al Harthi won the prestigious Prize for her novel "Celestial Bodies", the story of three sisters of a desert country confronting its slave-owning past and a complex modern world. She is the first Arabic-language writer to win the prize.
Saraswati Samman, 2019 (1991)	Telugu poet K Siva Reddy	He won the award for the collection of poetry titled 'Pakkaki Ottigilite'
2019 Mathrubhumi Literary award	TBA	
54 <sup>rd</sup> Jnanpith Award 2018 (1962)	TBA	
FT & Mckinsey business book award 2019	TBA	
UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2019	TBA	
	TBA	
UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy 2019	TBA	
	TBA	
	TBA	



Commonwealth short story prize 2019	TBA	TBA
-------------------------------------	-----	-----

Journalism	Awardee	Achievement
UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize 2019, Helsinki	TBA	TBA

### Nobel Prizes 2019

Subject	Winners
Economics	Abhijit Banerjee(America), Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer for their work alleviating global poverty.
Chemistry	John B Goodenough (German American), M Stanley Whittingham (British–American) and Akira Yoshino (Japanese) for their pivotal role in making lithium-ion batteries.
Physics	James Peebles(The USA), Michel Mayor(Switzerland) and Didier Queloz(The UK)
Literature	Peter Handke(Austria)
Peace	Ethiopian PM Abiy Ahmed Ali
Medicine	William Kaelin and Gregg Semenza(US), Peter Ratcliffe(Britain)

### Alternative Nobel Prize 2019 (Right Livelihood Award)

Winners	Narration
Greta Thunberg	She won the award the days after imploring world leaders to take the threat of climate change more seriously in an emotional speech at the United Nations

Civilian Awards 2019	Awardees	Field
	TBA	TBA

### Honours

Personality/Entity	Honour
Alice Walton topped as the richest woman in the	She has a net worth of \$51.4 billion. She is the only daughter of Walmart founder Sam Walton. The

world in the Forbes 400 list	Waltons are the wealthiest family dynasty in the US.
Ravish Kumar, the Managing Editor of NDTV India has won the first Gauri Lankesh National Award for Journalism	He was chosen for the award for sharp news analysis and uncompromising secular stance
Infosys has won UN Global Climate Action Award in the 'Climate Neutral Now' category	Infosys was recognised for its' pledge to become carbon neutral, which serves as a beacon for guiding world towards a more sustainable future for all.
Mukesh Ambani topped the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2019	He tops for the eighth consecutive year with a total net worth of around Rs 3.8 lakh crore. London-based SP Hinduja & family, worth Rs 1.86 lakh crore, retains the second rank in the list.
Kerala tourism has won the Pacific Asia Travel Association Gold award 2019	The tourism has won the award for an ethnic food restaurant run by women
Bollywood actor Neena Gupta registered a double victory at Indian International Film Festival of Boston in 2019.	She won a Best Actress award for 'Badhaai Ho' movie, while her film 'The Last Color' directed by world-renowned chef Vikas Khanna emerged victorious in Best Feature Film category at Indian International Film Festival of Boston in 2019.
'Gully Boy' has been declared as India's official entry in the 'Best International Feature Film' category for the 2019 Academy Awards	Gully Boy Stars Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt and directed by Zoya Akhtar
Moti Bagh is an Indian documentary film nominated for 2019 Academy Awards.	Moti Bagh is based on the struggle of a farmer in a remote Himalayan village. It has been directed by Nirmal Chander Dandriyal
PM Narendra Modi received the Global Goalkeeper Award 2019	He won the award for Swachh Bharat Abhiyan or the Clean India Mission, was one of the first few ambitious projects that PM Modi launched in his first term at the Centre in 2014.

at Lincoln Centre by Bill and Melinda Gates	
Scarlett Johansson topped the Forbes magazine's world's Highest-Paid actresses of 2019	She earned top spot with an earning of \$56 million. Sofia Vergara and Jennifer Aniston among the top ten.
Narendra Modi was conferred 'King Hamad Order of the Renaissance' by Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa in Manama	Narendra Modi has been conferred the award in recognition of his efforts to strengthen bilateral relations with the key Gulf nation.
D.K Thangaraj conferred the JC Bose Fellowship 2019	He won the award for his outstanding scientific contributions in the field of population and medical genomics
K Sivan was conferred with A.P.J. Abdul Kalam award 2019	Tamil Nadu government awarded the award in recognition of Dr Sivan's stellar work in the promotion of science and technology.
Priyam Chatterjee became the first Indian chef to be awarded the 'Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérite Agricoleto' by the government of France.	He honoured to recognise his contribution towards reinventing the gastronomic scene in India. He is best known for revisiting the traditional dishes from his native state of West Bengal and giving it a French twist.
P V Sindhu is the only Indian female athlete to appear in the Forbes list of the world's highest-paid female athletes in 2019	She has earnings of 5.5 million dollars. While US tennis superstar Serena Williams topped the 2019 Forbes world's highest-paid female athletes list.
President Ram Nath Kovind was awarded the National Order of Merit by the President of Guinea	This is the highest award Republic of Guinea by African government.
Reliance Industries Ltd. has become the top-ranked Indian company to feature in the	It ranked 106th in the list. Reliance Industries overtook state-owned Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)

Fortune Global 500 list 2019	
Tata became India's most valuable brand for 2019 according to Brand Finance India 100 report	Tata's brand value is \$19.6 billion. Followed by LIC(Life Insurance Corporation) (2nd ) with \$7.3 billion and Infosys (3rd )\$6.5 billion.
According to Bloomberg, Arnault's increased 39 billion dollars to his fortune in 2019, the highest individual gain on the 500-member index.	Bill Gates is the world's 2nd richest person. Bill Gates is the world's third-richest person with \$107 billion as compared to second-richest person Arnault's \$108 billion wealth.
Taylor Swift is the highest-paid celebrity in the Forbes Celebrity 100 List 2019	Akshay Kumar was the only Indian in the Forbes Highest-Paid Celebrities 2019. He stood at the 33rd spot with earnings of Rs 444 crore (\$65 million)
Fortune India's Most Powerful Women list for 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Zia Mody</li> <li>2. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw,</li> <li>3. Sunita Reddy</li> <li>4. Alice Vaidyan</li> <li>5. Mallika Srinivasan</li> </ol>
Forbes world's 100 most powerful women 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany.</li> <li>2. Theresa May, the PM of the UK</li> <li>3. Melinda Gates, Co-founder of Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation.</li> <li>4. Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook</li> <li>5. Mary Barra, CEO of General Motors</li> </ol> <p>Indians in the list</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Roshni Nadar Malhotra</li> <li>2. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw</li> <li>3. Shobhana Bhartia</li> <li>4. Priyanka Chopra</li> </ol>
Rihanna has been named the world's richest female musician by Forbes magazine 2019	The singer's worth is estimated at USD 600m, including revenues made from her fashion and beauty lines in addition to those from her music career
Jay-Z is the World's 1st Billionaire Rapper as per Forbes Magazine 2019 list	The 49 years older rapper, husband of the singer Beyonce, has a wealth of USD 1bn

Jamal Khashoggi named 'Time Magazine's Person of the Year' 2018	Saudi Arabian Islamist activist, dissident, author, columnist for the Washington Post, general manager and editor-in-chief of Al-Arab News Channel was assassinated at the Saudi Arabian consulate in Istanbul on 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2018 by agents of the Saudi government
Virat Kohli is the only Indian appeared in the Forbes list of World's highest-paid athletes 2019	The list has been topped by the Barcelona and Argentina professional Footballer Lionel Messi with the annual earnings of USD 127mn
As per Forbes World's Best Bank survey 2019, HDFC bank was identified as the top ranked bank by customers in India	Apart from HDFC Bank, it was another private-owned lender ICICI Bank which took the second spot in Forbes list for India. At third rank was DBS, followed by Kotak Mahindra Bank & IDFC Bank taking the fourth and fifth spot
RIL, HDFC among 57 Indian Companies appeared in Forbes Global 2000 List in 2019	The overall chart was topped by the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) for the 7 <sup>th</sup> year in a row, while Reliance Industries is the top-ranked Indian company (Globally ranked 71st), as per the leading business magazine. Some other Indian companies are: HDFC Bank (209), ONGC (220), Indian Oil (288)

### Government Schemes

Name	Narration
Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers receive rs. 5000 amount under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana in 3 installments.	It is expected to fulfill various conditionality namely early registration of pregnancy, ante-natal check-up, and registration of the birth of the child and completion of the first cycle of vaccination for the first living child of the family.
The Government of India recently announced Sabka Vishwas scheme	It aimed at eliminating the bulk of pending tax dispute cases besides providing partial amnesty to those having tax dues. This scheme became operational from September 1 with the window being open till December 31.

<p>Government plans to focus on the allied issue of water under the scheme Nal se Jal</p>	<p>The scheme 'Nal se Jal' will be a component of the government's Jal Jivan Mission. The Ministry plans to provide piped water connections to every household in India by 2024. The ministry will also look at conservation of surface and groundwater and inter-linking rivers across the country.</p>
<p>Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi(<b>PM-KISAN</b>) has been extended to all farmers in India, irrespective of the size of their landholding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The government decided to provide Rs 6,000 per year (in three equal instalments) to an estimated 12.5 crore to all small and marginal farmers. The revised Scheme is expected to cover around 2 crore more farmers, increasing the coverage of PM-KISAN to around 14.5 crore beneficiaries.</li> <li>● Cabinet also approved the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana under which small and marginal farmers will get a minimum fixed pension of Rs 3,000 per month on attaining the age of 60 years</li> </ul>
<p><b>Unnat Bharat Abhiyan</b>  <b>Led by the Ministry</b> of Human and Resource Development</p>	<p>Students from 750 colleges and universities across the country will adopt nearby villages and visit them to get familiar with the life of the villagers and problems faced by them in day-to-day life</p>
<p>Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The farmer empowerment scheme aims to ensure remunerative prices to farmers for their produce and strengthen the agriculture sector</li> <li>● It has three components: Price Support Scheme (PSS) Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) Pilot of Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPPS)</li> </ul>
<p>Mukhyamantri Yuva Nestam  <b>Launched by</b> Andhra Pradesh government</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Unemployment allowance scheme to provide Rs 1000 per month to the unemployed youth in state</li> <li>● Amount will be credited to bank accounts of beneficiaries through biometric authentication</li> </ul>

<p>The PM launched PMJAY in Ranchi</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Touted as the world’s largest healthcare scheme, PMJAY (Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana falls) under Ayushman Bharat umbrella. It intends to cover beneficiaries in 444 districts in 30 states/UTs</li> <li>• The scheme became operational on 25 September, which marked the birth anniversary of Deendayal Upadhyay</li> </ul>
<p>Farmer assistance schemes in Odisha &amp; Telangana</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rythu Bandhu (Telangana) - Income support worth Rs. 4000/acre to landowners</li> <li>• KALIA (Krishak Assistance for Livelihood &amp; Income Assistance, Odisha) - Proposes to transfer Rs. 5000 per season to 30 lakh marginal farmers &amp; Rs. 12,500 each to 10 lakh landless households</li> </ul>
<p>PAHAL scheme (Pratyaksh Hanstantrit Labh) <b>Led by</b> Ministry of Petroleum &amp; Natural Gas</p>	<p>Under modified scheme, LPG consumer can receive subsidy in his bank account by Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)</p>
<p>Ayushman Bharat Scheme (National Health Protection Scheme or NHPS) <b>Led by</b> Union Government</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The biggest health financing scheme in the world with an insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh</li> <li>• 1.5 lakh wellness centers will be opened across the country for about 55 crore beneficiaries from 10 crore poor families</li> </ul>
<p>‘IMPRINT-2’ scheme <b>Led by</b> Ministry of HRD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Central Government approved 122 new research projects of Rs 112 crore under Impacting Research Innovation and Technology (IMPRINT) initiative</li> <li>• The initiative aims to advance research in energy, security, and healthcare domains in higher education institutions</li> </ul>
<p>Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana <b>Led by the Ministry</b> of Women and Child Development</p>	<p>The Government of India reduced the minimum annual deposit requirement for accounts under Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana from Rs. 1,000 to 250</p>
<p>SAFAR: Most advanced System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting inaugurated in Delhi</p>	<p>State-of-the-art Air Quality &amp; Weather Forecast System– SAFAR (System of Air Quality &amp; Weather Forecasting) will monitor all weather parameters like temperature,</p>

<b>Led by</b> Ministry of Earth Sciences	rainfall, humidity, wind speed & wind direction
Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan 2.0 <b>Led by</b> Ministry of HRD	The scheme aims to link higher education institutions with set of at least five villages, so that they can contribute to economic & social betterment of these village communities. 748 institutions are participating under scheme as on date
Eklavya School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eklavya schools will be established for scheduled caste students by 2022 along the lines of Navodaya schools</li> <li>• Eklavya model residential schools will be set up in each Block having more than 50% tribal areas and 20,000 tribal people</li> <li>• They will be part of Navodaya Vidyalayas and besides training in sports and skill development, there will also be special facilities for preserving local art and culture</li> </ul>
Operation Green	The goal of the scheme is to double the farmers' income by the end of the year 2022. An amount of Rs. Rs. 500 crore will be allocated under this scheme. The scheme was launched to reduce fluctuation in pricing of Onion, Tomatoes and Potatoes
Expansion of Ujjwala Scheme	Government has set a target to provide 8 crore free LPG connections to poor families under Ujjwala scheme
<b>PMAY</b> (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana) <b>Led by the Ministry of</b> Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation	The scheme was launched in 2015 to ensure housing for all by 2022. The Union Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has announced that 30.76 lakh houses for the urban poor have been sanctioned. 15.65 lakh houses are at various stages of construction and 4.13 lakh houses have been constructed
<b>Saubhagya</b> - Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana <b>Revived by</b> Ministry of Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intent to provide electricity to all households. The project was announced in September 2017 by PM Narendra Modi</li> <li>• Its aim was to complete electrification process by December 2018. The total outlay of the project is Rs.16, 320 crore, while the Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) is</li> </ul>



	Rs. 12,320 crore. The outlay for the rural households is Rs. 14,025 crore while the GBS is Rs. 10,587 crore
<b>Pradhan Mantri LPG Panchayat scheme</b>  <b>Led by</b> The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	LPG Panchayat scheme aims at spreading awareness among LPG users about how to properly use clean fuel and its benefits
<b>AMRUT</b> (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation)  <b>Led By</b> Ministry of Urban Development	Providing basic services, including water supply, sewerage, urban transport & building of amenities in cities to improve quality of life. It aims to transform 500 cities and towns into efficient urban living spaces over a period of five years. 20 cities were selected in the 1st round, 13 in 2 <sup>nd</sup> round
<b>PMUY</b> (Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana)  <b>Led by</b> Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas	Replacing the unclean cooking fuels mostly used in rural India with the clean and more efficient LPG (Tagline – ‘ <i>Swachh Indhan, Behtar Jeevan</i> ’) Targets 5 Crore LPG connections to be distributed to BPL households over 3 yrs
<b>Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana</b> (Crop insurance)  <b>Led by</b> Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW)	Replaced existing National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified NAIS (MNIAS) Farmers will have to pay a uniform premium of 2% for kharif crops, 1.5% for rabi crops, 5% for annual commercial & horticultural crops The remaining share of the premium will continue to be borne equally by the Centre & respective state governments
<b>Sagarmala Project</b>  <b>Led by the Ministry of Shipping</b>	Transforming existing Ports into modern world class ports. Integrating port development, the Industrial clusters & hinterland and efficient evacuation systems through road, rail, inland and coastal waterways

<p><b>Namami Gange – National Mission for Clean Ganga</b></p> <p><b>Led by</b> Ministry of water resources</p>	<p>231 projects have been launched under Namami Gange programme. The idea is to maintain minimum ecological flows in the river Ganga with the aim of ensuring water quality and environmentally sustainable development</p>
<p><b>Skill India</b></p> <p><b>Led by</b> Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship</p>	<p>Aim to train 40 crore Indians in different skills by 2022. It includes various initiatives like National Skill Development Mission, National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 2015, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) &amp; the Skill Loan scheme</p>
<p><b>PMYY (Pradhan Mantri Yuva Yojana) for entrepreneurs</b></p> <p><b>Led by</b> Ministry of Skills Development &amp; Entrepreneurship (MSDE)</p>	<p>Scheme will span over 5 years (2016-17 to 2020-21) with a project cost of 500 crores It will provide entrepreneurship education and training to over 7 lakh students in 5 years through 3,050 institutes (Include higher learning schools, ITIs, schools and entrepreneurship development centres)</p>
<p><b>Swadesh Darshan</b></p> <p><b>Led by</b> Ministry of Tourism</p>	<p>Theme based tourism circuits (e.g. Religion, culture, ethnicity, niche etc) are identified for infrastructure development across the country</p>
<p><b>JIGYASA</b></p> <p><b>Led by</b> CSIR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A student- scientist connect programme has been launched by the government in New Delhi. The programme would be implemented by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, in collaboration with Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan</li> <li>• The main focus of the programme is to connect school students and scientists as well as to extend student’s classroom learning to a very well-planned research laboratory based learning</li> </ul>
<p><b>UDAN RCS (Regional Connectivity Scheme)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the scheme, 50% seats in aeroplanes are offered at concessional rates to passengers</li> </ul>

<b>Led by the Ministry</b> of Civil Aviation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently, Nashik-Delhi, Nanded-Hyderabad, Mumbai-Nanded, Kolhapur-Hyderabad, Kolhapur-Bengaluru and Kolhapur-Hubli routes are operational under the scheme</li> </ul>
<b>Swasth Bachche, Swasth Bharat</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The programme is an initiative of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) to prepare a physical Health &amp; Fitness Profile Card for more than 12 lakhs of Kendriya Vidyalaya students</li> </ul>
<b>UJALA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy Efficiency Services Limited ( EESL), under the Ministry of Power, Government of India has launched UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable Lighting for All) Scheme in the State of Melaka, Malaysia</li> <li>Under this scheme, each household in Melaka will get 10 high quality 9-watt LED bulbs at a cost of only RM 10, which is a special price and is almost half of what in begin offered in the market</li> </ul>

### Government News

<b>News</b>	<b>Narration</b>
In 2019, Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) partnered with Ola to extend the scheme benefit to the cab drivers.	The partnership will provide comprehensive health insurance for secondary and tertiary care to tens of thousands of drivers working with the cab aggregator and their families.
Telangana government declared 2020 as Year of Artificial Intelligence	As part of the declaration, the government will organise various activities related to the emerging technology of Artificial Intelligence. The government of Telangana has also partnered with NITI Aayog, which has come out with the 'National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence'.
Maharashtra government announced plans to set up Swachh Bharat World University in Wardha to	The government resolution stated that Maharashtra is facing rapid urbanisation and villages are being converted into cities and cities into metropolitan areas. Garbage and uncleanliness problem has acquired a serious

mark Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary.	proportion and it is affecting people's health and environment. The government wants to establish the University, which will focus on cleanliness and sanitation research.
Andhra Pradesh to give self-employed auto and taxi drivers annual incentive of 10,000 under 'YSR Vaahana Mitra' scheme	The motto of 'YSR Vahana Mitra' is that the amount could be useful for the drivers to repair, vehicle fitness, insurance expenses
J&K became the first state to issue highest number of golden cards under Ayushman Bharat scheme	Over 11 lakh golden cards have been generated within the first 90 days of the launch of the scheme with 60% families having at least one golden card which is highest in the country.
Union Human Resource Development Ministry has launched the world's largest Integrated Online Junction for School Education 'Shagun'	The initiative is expected to improve school education system by creating a junction for all online portals and websites relating to various activities of the Department of School Education and Literacy in the Government of India and all States and Union Territories
Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) constituted a 5-member special cell called 'Startup Cell'	The order also gave out an email id — startupcell.cbdt@gov.in — and the postal address of the cell The cell will work towards redressal of grievances and mitigate tax-related issues in case of startup entities
The Union Health Minister has started 'POSHAN Maah 2019' with 'Eat Right India' mass media campaign	To raise awareness of the importance of proper nutritional standards in everyday life as a means of improving health and wellbeing, for both the rich and the poor
Road Transport and Highways Ministry of India has increased the penalties for traffic rule violations across the country.	Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, such <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Drunken driving attract a fine of Rs 10,000 and/or imprisonment of six months to two years.</li> <li>● Penalty for driving without a licence was increased from (fine up to Rs 500 and/or imprisonment which may extend to three months) to ("fine of Rs 5,000 and/or imprisonment which may extend to 3 months")</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Not wearing a helmet while riding a two-wheeler can now lead to a fine of Rs 1,000 and disqualification for licences for three months.</li> </ul>
According to the latest Sample Registration Survey (SRS) for 2013-17, India has seen an improvement in overall life expectancy at birth to 69 years.	<p>With women expected to live 70.4 years and men for 67.8 years for 2013-17</p> <p>The overall life expectancy grew from 68.7 years in 2012-16, when life expectancy for women was 70.2 years and that for men was 67.4 years</p>
As per National Health Mission, Rajasthan has topped the free medicine scheme	According to the National Health Mission letter, the Drugs and Vaccine Distribution Management System coverage in Rajasthan is 77.26 percent and proportion of online drug distribution counters, 96.03 percent.
India launched the world's first ever facial biometric data-based ID for seafarers	The new facial biometric technology is a marked improvement over the two finger or iris based biometric data, with modern security features. This will lead to generation of employment in the sector, which is evident in the growing number of Indian seafarers in the international shipping industry.
Ministry of Road Transport and Highways announced that FASTags will be mandatory for all toll plazas on national highways effective 1 December 2019.	FASTag is an electronic toll collection device installed in the vehicle to enable drivers to drive through toll plazas without having to stop.
Gujarat was ranked first in the year 2017-18 in the released Composite Water Management Index 2.0.	Gujarat is followed by Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Composite Water Management Index ranks states/UTs based on water data collection exercise conducted by NITI Aayog in partnership with Union Ministry of Jal Shakti, Union Ministry of Rural Development and all States/UTs
Delhi announced free electricity for people using up to 200 units under a domestic connection	The decision, which came into effect from August 1, has been taken barely six months before Delhi Assembly elections due in February 2020.

	This move would also result in reducing the increasing peak load of the national capital
The Indian Railways cancelled Samjhauta Express train	Decision to cancel Samjhauta Express on Indian side of the border came days after Pakistan suspended services on its side Pakistan suspended Samjhauta Express and Thar Express trains after India revoked special status of Jammu and Kashmir The Indian Railways run the train on Sundays from Delhi to Attari and back, while Pakistan used to run the train between Lahore and Attari.
Maharashtra became the first state to adopt a digital fingerprint and iris scanning system to aid police investigations	It also includes portable system to dust off and capture fingerprints from crime scenes. It can be integrated with facial recognition from CCTV cameras that enables police to cross-reference and apart from solving fresh crimes it can even put faces to criminals whose fingerprints have been captured on paper for more than a decade
The 7th Economic Census of India began from July 2019 in Tripura	In order to get a complete count of all economic units in the country, the government plans to kick off the mammoth task of conducting the Seventh Economic Census. It is three-month long fieldwork. It is being conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation The IT-enabled economic census would be done by the Common Service Centres (CSC) in each gram panchayat
The government revoked Article 370 that gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir	Changes in J&K after Article 370 abolished <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Jammu and Kashmir will no longer have separate constitution, flag or anthem. The citizens of Jammu and Kashmir will not have dual citizenship-they will be citizens of India alone.</li> <li>2. As the new union territory of Jammu and Kashmir will be subject to the Indian Constitution, its citizens will now have the Fundamental Rights enshrined in that document-until now, this was not the case. Article 360, which can be used to declare a</li> </ol>

	<p>Financial Emergency, will now also be applicable.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. All laws passed by Parliament will be applicable in Jammu and Kashmir, including the Right to Information Act and the Right to Education Act.</li> <li>4. The Indian Penal Code will replace the Ranbir Penal Code of Jammu and Kashmir</li> <li>5. As the government has modified the Article 370, diluting special status to Jammu and Kashmir, Article 35 (A), which originates from the provisions of Article 370 stands null and void. Any Indian citizen from any part of the country can now buy property in Jammu and Kashmir, take a state government job and enjoy scholarships and other government benefits. Children of a woman marrying outside Jammu and Kashmir will not lose property rights.</li> <li>6. There will be two new union territories J&amp;K, Ladakh. Ladakh is the India's first Buddhist dominated Union Territory.</li> </ol> <p>After the revoking of article 370 and 35A, there will be 28 states and 9 union territories.</p>
<p>Andhra Pradesh became the first ever Indian state to reserve 75% private jobs for local youths</p>	<p>The new law in Andhra will now require private companies to train locals if people with suitable skills are not available. "his will help the person who has lost their lands and their occupations for facilitating the establishment of industries and other unemployed youth by ensuring that their livelihoods are guaranteed and sustained</p>
<p>Bill against Triple Talaq passed after a very long discussion and finally got the verdict</p>	<p>The bill makes instant triple talaq (talaq-e-biddah) in any form — spoken, in writing or by electronic means such as email, SMS and WhatsApp illegal and void, with up to three years in jail for the husband.</p>
<p>The government has reconstituted the Group of Ministers on sexual harassment at workplace</p>	<p>The other members of the reconstituted GoM are: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' and Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani.</p>

under the leadership of Amit Shah	
The RBI has assigned Deputy Governor BP Kanungo to run the monetary policy portfolio	This happen after the resignation of fellow Deputy Governor Viral Acharya.
Google India's 'Internet Saathi' programme aimed to empower rural women to use the Internet	The programme reached 2.6 lakh villages in 20 states. A pilot project in 2015 along with Tata Trusts, 'Internet Saathi' programme The main focus is on educating women on how to use the Internet.
As per Labour Ministry, India's unemployment rate hit four-decade high of 6.1% in 2017-18	The released data shows 7.8% of all employable urban youths as unemployed. Participation rate for males and females for the quarter ending December 2018 was 73.6% & 19.5% respectively
Amasebailu became the first 100% Solar power village in Karnataka	Amasebailu is a small village situated on the left bank of Haldi river in Udupi. It is tagged as a Solar Gram Panchayat with about 1858 houses illuminated with solar lamps
India's first Tree Ambulance initiated in Chennai by Green man of India	The initiative was proposed by Green man of India, Dr K Abdul Ghani and is sponsored by the SASA Group. Services provided by Tree Ambulance first-aid treatment are uprooted tree planting, seed bank, seed ball distribution, plant distribution, aiding tree plantation, shifting trees, a survey of trees and removal of dead trees
India's fastest train 'Vande Bharat Express' completed 1 Lakh kilometers without missing a single trip	It was flagged off by Mr. Narendra Modi under 'Make In India' Initiative, on February 15, 2019, from New Delhi to Varanasi. This 16 coach train began its commercial run from February 17, 2019
Delhi Metro Station became India's first project to receive power from waste-to-energy	The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) receiving 2 MW power from a 12 MW capacity waste-to-energy plant set up in Ghazipur
Kerala topped NITI Aayog's health index 2019 ranking	Next to Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra emerged as the second and third best performers respectively, on health parameters. Kerala secured an overall score of 74.01, while UP was the least performing state with an overall score of 28.61



Meghalaya became the first ever state in India to ensure water conservation with State Water Policy.	The policy aims to recognize water resources as a common pool resource, to provide safe and hygienic water for drinking, domestic, sanitation & livelihood development to all residents of the state, ensure the protection and conservation of catchment areas of all water sources to prevent degradation of the quantity and quality of water sources
India celebrated 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of victory in Operation VIJAY	Operation VIJAY is popularly known as the Kargil War. The Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrations for the year 2019 will be spread over three days from 25-27 July 2019 and organized in Dras & New Delhi. The theme for Kargil Vijay Diwas 2019 was “Remember, Rejoice and Renew”.
One Nation, One Card Model launched	PM launched ‘One Nation, One Card’ Model for seamless travel through different metros and other transport systems. Under this model, India’s first indigenously developed payment eco-system for transport mobility consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Common Mobility Card (NCMC)</li> <li>• Swachalit Kiraya: Automatic Fare Collection System (SWEEKAR)</li> <li>• Swachalit Gate (SWAGAT) based on NCMC Standards</li> </ul> These three indigenously developed components of payment ecosystem for transport mobility together will enable use of national mobility card across country without conflict with existing point-of-sale (PoS) machines

### Science & Hi-Tech

News	Narration
The team of Event Horizon Telescope won the 2020 ‘Oscars of Science’ award	The team won the award for capturing the world’s first-ever image of a black hole circled by a flame-orange halo of white-hot plasma on the Messier 87 (M87) galaxy.
‘Nanoseaweed’ is the world’s thinnest gold created by scientists from the University of Leeds, UK	The researchers measured the thickness of the gold to be 0.47 nanometres – one million times thinner than a human fingernail

<p>ISRO has launched Chandrayaan-2 successfully into the elliptical Earth orbit from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on 22 July</p>	<p>Chandrayaan-2 mission, is an advanced version of the previous Chandrayaan-1 mission about 10 years ago. The spacecraft was carried by the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle GSLV MkIII-M1. It is expected that Spacecraft will try to land a rover near the South pole of the Moon on 7 September 2019, in 48 days. It will have 13 Indian payloads (8 on orbiter, 3 on lander and 2 on rover). The spacecraft with a mass of 3.8 tonnes has three modules--Orbiter, Lander (Vikram) and Rover (Pragyan). The orbiter will orbit 100 km from the lunar surface, while lander (Vikram) will do the soft landing near the south pole of the moon, and Rover (Pragyan) will conduct in-situ experiments. ISRO lost contact with Vikram lander of Chandrayaan 2 when it was 2.1Km away from lunar surface</p>
<p>ISRO launched PSLV-C46 carrying earth observation satellite RISAT-2B on 48th mission</p>	<p>The earth observation satellite RISAT-2B is capable of observing Earth during the day, night and even under rainy and cloudy conditions. The RISAT-2B (Radar Imaging Satellite-2B), meant for application in fields such as surveillance, agriculture, forestry and disaster management support</p>

## Aerospace & Defence

### Aerospace

News	Narration
<p>DART: NASA's first planetary defence technology</p>	<p>It is planned space probe that will demonstrate kinetic impactor technique of crashing an impactor spacecraft into asteroids moon for planetary defense purposes</p>
<p>Momo-3 is Japan's first private rocket to reach space</p>	<p>A Japanese aerospace startup Interstellar Technology Inc. successfully launched 'Momo-3' rocket from Hokkaido, which reached about 110 kilometers (68 miles) in altitude before falling into the Pacific Ocean after 10 minutes of flight time.</p>

ISRO launched PSLV-C46 carrying earth observation satellite RISAT-2B on 48th mission	The earth observation satellite RISAT-2B is capable of observing Earth during the day, night and even under rainy and cloudy conditions. The RISAT-2B (Radar Imaging Satellite-2B), meant for application in fields such as surveillance, agriculture, forestry and disaster management support
--	---

## Defence

News	Narration
India signed a deal with Russian firm to produce 7.5 lakh AK-203 rifles	The project, in collaboration with Russia, will be undertaken at the Korwa ordnance factory. Around 7.5 lakh units of the latest version of AK-47 will be manufactured in the new unit
MPATGM successfully test-fired by DRDO in Rajasthan	DRDO successfully test fired indigenously developed, low weight, fire and forget Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) for the second time in the Pokhran ranges of Rajasthan desert. MPATGM is incorporated with advanced features including state-of-the-art Imaging Infrared Radar (IIR) Seeker with integrated avionics

## Military & Naval Exercises

### Military Exercises

News	Narration
The 23rd edition of the Trilateral Maritime exercise Malabar began in September 2019 at the coast of Sasebo, Japan.	The exercise involves warships and aircraft from the United States, Japan, and India. The naval exercise Malabar will be held for 10-days from 26 September to 04 October 2019.
A joint military training, Exercise Yudh Abhyas - 2019 was held at Washington DC. It is a part of the ongoing Indo-US defence cooperation.	It is one of the largest running joint military training and defence corporation endeavours between India and the US. It would further facilitate interoperability between the armed forces of the two nations to meet any unforeseen contingency across the globe.

INS Vela scorpene class submarine launched for trials	INS Vela, fourth in the series of six Scorpene-class submarines was rolled out in the waters under 'Project 75' as per contract between Mazagon Dock Limited & Naval Group of France
Varuna 2019 is the largest ever joint exercise undertaken by the Indian and French navies	The first phase of the exercise was held off the Goa coast from 1-10 May The second phase of the exercises will be held in May end near Djibouti. The exercise saw training in anti-air, anti-surface and anti-submarine operations.

### India's Global Rankings

Rating/Index	Released by	India's Ranking
2019 Global Competitiveness Index	World Economic Forum	68(Singapore topped the list)(58 in 2018)
Global Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index 2017-18	World Economic Forum	34/140 (Spain topped the list)
Inclusive Internet Index 2019	Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) for Facebook	47/100 (47 in 2018)
Global Climate Risk Index 2019	Germanwatch, an independent German NGO and Climate Action Network, Europe	14 (6 in 2018)
Global Terrorism Index 2019 – Countries Most Hit by Terror	Institute for Economics & Peace, a Sydney-based think-tank	TBA
EIU Democracy Index 2019	Economic Intelligence Unit	TBA
Global Trust Index 2019	Communications marketing firm 'Edelman'	Trust in government - Fourth position behind Indonesia, UAE & China
Global Retirement Index 2018	Natixis Global	43/43 countries Rank 1 - Panama
Human Capital Index 2019	World Economic Forum	TBA

International IP Index 2019	Global Innovation Policy Centre (GIPC) of US Chambers of Commerce	36/50 global economies (44 in 2018) Rank 1 - The US
Ease of Doing Business ranking 2019	World Bank	77/190 (100 in 2018) Rank 1 - New Zealand
Human Development Index 2018	UN Development Programme	TBA
IMD World Talent Ranking 2018	IMD	53/63 (55 in 2017) Rank 1 - Switzerland
Global Hunger Index 2019	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	102/119 (103 in 2018)
2019 Logistics Performance Index	The World Bank	TBA
2019 FDI Confidence Index	AT Kearney	TBA
Global Innovation Index 2019	WIPO, Cornell University and INSEAD	52/129 countries (57 in 2018)
End of Childhood Index 2019	Save the Children	113/176 countries (113 in 2017)
Global Peace Index 2019	Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP)	Iceland continues to be the most peaceful country in the world. India ranked at 136 <sup>th</sup> position in 2018
Environmental Performance Index (EPI) 2019	Yale University and Columbia University in collaboration with the WEF & the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission	177/180 countries (141 in 2017)
Global Gender Gap Index 2019	World Economic Forum	108/144 countries
World Economic Freedom Index 2018	Centre for Civil Society, a public policy think tank along with Canada's Fraser Institute	TBA
Global Talent Competitiveness Index 2019	Adecco, INSEAD Business School & Tata Comm.	80/125 (79 in 2018)

World Digital Competitiveness Index 2019	The IMD Digital	TBA
Corruption Perception Index 2019	Transparency International	TBA
Global Peace Index 2019	Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)	TBA
World Press Freedom Index 2019	Reporters Without Borders (NGO)	TBA
2019 Inclusive Growth & Development Index	World Economic Forum	TBA

### International News

News	Narration
Thailand rolled out plain cigarette packaging	Thailand became the first Asian nation to unveil plain cigarette packaging to reduce the appeal of smoking and complied with the WHO guidelines
Sri Lanka unveiled a new train named Pulathisi Express under 'Make in India' project	It has been manufactured by the Integral Coach Factory in Chennai. Pulathisi Express has been equipped with the best-in-class passenger amenities including modular interiors, an on-board entertainment system and fully rotating seats in air-conditioned chair car coaches for passenger comfort.
Vietnam launched Southeast Asia's largest solar power farm with the capacity to produce 688 million kWh of electricity every year.	'Dau Tieng Solar Power Complex' occupied 540 hectares area, having the capacity to generate 688 million kWh (kilowatt-hour) of electricity annually
Thrissur in Kerala, India received a special mention as 'an emerging destination' on the global accessible tourism market in 23rd session of the UN World Tourism Organization's (UNWTO) General Assembly for 2019.	Thrissur gained the honour for its outstanding efforts to make its tourism infrastructure, services and products more accessible nation-wide. India's 'Yogi of the Racetrack', a short promotional film on Yoga produced by the Union Ministry of Tourism, was conferred 'Best Video' award 2019 for the Asia & Pacific Region during UNWTO Tourism Video Competition 2019.

<p>Sri Lanka unveiled South Asia's tallest tower 'Lotus tower' in 2019.</p>	<p>The 350-metre-tall 17-storey tower has been funded by China under the controversial Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)</p>
<p>Bulgaria's economist Kristalina Georgieva has been elected as the new head of the International Monetary Fund.</p>	<p>She is the second woman ever to lead the 189-member institution. In acknowledging her selection, Georgieva spoke of tempestuous times for the global economy. The selection guaranteed after the global crisis lender earlier this month that Georgieva, a former World Bank CEO, was the sole candidate.</p>
<p>The 45th G7 summit was held in France in August 2019</p>	<p>Attendees included leaders of the G7 member states plus representatives of the European Union. The President of France, Emmanuel Macron, invited the Prime Minister of Australia Scott Morrison, the Prime Minister of Spain Pedro Sánchez, and the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi to attend the outreach session of the summit as special invitees. According to a senior administration official, Donald Trump and Emmanuel Macron had agreed that Russia should be invited to the next G7 Summit to be held in 2020</p>
<p>Russia launched the rocket carrying life-sized robot "Fedor" to the International space station</p>	<p>It was launched from Russia's Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. It is the first ever robot sent into space by Russia. The robot is the size of a human adult and can emulate movements of the human body using its robotic hands</p>
<p>Jyske bank launched the world's first negative interest rate mortgage.</p>	<p>It became the first Danish lender to impose negative interest rates on customer deposits and has warned that sub-zero rates were looking "rather permanent"</p>
<p>Pakistan placed under blacklist of FATF Asia-Pacific Group</p>	<p>Pakistan has been placed on the blacklist of the Financial Action Task Force's Asia Pacific Group (APG) for non-compliance and non-enforcement of safeguards against terror financing and money laundering.</p>

The US has officially named China as a "currency manipulator"	The manipulation designation is a response to China's decision to reduce the value of its currency. That, in turn, was a response to Trump's decision to levy tariffs on a broader range of Chinese goods.
Australia cricket board launched transgender and gender diverse policy in August 2019	The policy is to support players electing to participate in cricket in line with their gender identity, whether or not this aligns with the sex they were assigned at birth. Also, anyone who is transgender or gender diverse has a chance to play cricket at the highest level
Palau became the 76th country to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA)	Palau, an archipelago of more than 500 islands in Oceania. The agreement was opened for signature during COP22 at Marrakech, Morocco on 15 November 2016.
US banned Myanmar army chief over Rohingya 'ethnic cleansing'	The USA banned visits by Myanmar's Army Chief and three other top officers due to their role in the "ethnic cleansing" of the Rohingya minority. The Army Chief Min Aung Hlaing and the others after finding credible evidence they were involved in the violence two years ago that led about 740,000 Rohingya to flee across the border to Bangladesh.
19 <sup>th</sup> SCO summit was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan on 13-14 June	PM Mr. Narendra Modi met Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian president Vladimir Putin. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also met the president of Kazakhstan and hold bilateral meetings with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani.
Track body IAAF renamed as World Athletics	The international governing body for the sport of athletics, International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) is to change its name as World Athletics
The G20 Summit of the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors was held in Japan	The Finance Ministers discussed new tax rules on global IT giants as well as the impact of aging populations on the economy as the corporate sector make huge profits through cross-border data transfers. The G20 Summit ended with the issuance of joint statement on trade and the digital economy
The 14th summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was	It was hosted by Saudi King Salman bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud. The official agenda of the meeting was to address current issues in the Muslim world and



held in Mecca, Saudi Arabia	recent developments in a number of OIC member states.
Joko Widodo has been re-elected as President of Indonesia	This is his second term. Widodo won the election by a 55.5% to 44.5% margin over his rival Prabowo Subianto
Saray Khumalo became the first black african woman to conquer Mt. Everest in her fourth attempt	South African climber, Saray Khumalo successfully completed her descent from the top of Mount Everest just over two days after climbing the mountain
The World Bank and Commonwealth Bank of Australia partnered for World's first block chain bond transactions	Bond -i became the first bond whose issuance and trading is recorded on the block chain platform.
Republic of Ireland declared Climate Emergency	Republic of Ireland has become only the second country in the world to declare a climate emergency. Earlier on 1 May 2019, Britain's parliament became the first in the world to declare a climate emergency <b>Targets:</b> to be undertaken include becoming a carbon-neutral by 2030, introduce electric car hubs or build sustainable homes to try to achieve that goal.
2019 Meetings of the COPs to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions was held in Switzerland	The theme of the meeting was "Clean Planet, Healthy People: Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste". The purpose is to develop technical guidelines on waste generated from electronics (e-waste), persistent organic pollutants (POPs), lead acid batteries and mercury as well as certain hazardous waste treatment methods. In the meeting, 187 countries pledge to restrict the global plastic waste but The US has refused to take part in the pledge
According to 2019 rating from AirHelp, Qatar Airways topped the list for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> consecutive year.	Qatar Airways topped the list for the second consecutive year. Adria Airways (67%) is the worst performing airlines

Jeff Bezos has unveiled a mock-up of a new lunar lander spacecraft that aims to take equipment and humans to the Moon by 2024.	The aim is for Blue Moon to land on the south pole of the Moon, where ice deposits have been found in craters. The water derived from that ice can be broken down to produce hydrogen, which could then fuel up the spacecraft for further missions across the solar system.
UK became the first ever country to announce 'climate emergency'	If the target recommended by the Committee on Climate Change is adopted, it would put the UK on a more aggressive time table than current target of cutting emissions 80% by 2050 compared to 1990 levels It implies that by 2035, all new cars must be electric. Forests must expand from covering 13% of land today to 17% by 2050. All buildings must be retrofitted and decarbonized & people must consume less meat

### Global Superlatives

News	Narration
Puerto Williams named as the World's southernmost city	Puerto Williams is located in Chile. Previously, the southernmost city was Ushuaia in Argentina. It is a growing hamlet on remote southern tip of South American continent
Russia launched the first ever Arctic train service	Russia launched the first ever tourist train traveling through Russia's Arctic region to Norway set off from Saint Petersburg station with 91 passengers aboard. The train named "Zarengold" ("The Tsars gold" in German) complete with two restaurant cars travel from Saint Petersburg through Petrozavodsk, the historic town of Kem and Murmansk
'Orchha town' of Madhya Pradesh has been added to the list of UNESCO's World Heritage Site.	The architectural heritage of 'Orchha town' of Madhya Pradesh depicts a unique style of the Bundela dynasty. It is situated on the bank of river betwa. It is famous for the Chaturbhuj temple, Raja Mahal & Orchha fort complex
Huawei overtook Apple to become World's second largest smartphone maker	According to statistics from the International Data Corp., South Korean consumer electronics giant Samsung continues to top the list with a 21% market share. The Chinese electronics giant Huawei

	has surpassed Apple to become the No. 2 smartphone vendor worldwide
Australian flight carrier, Qantas operated the world's first zero-waste flight	The flight named QF739 from Sydney to Adelaide disposed of all waste through compost, reuse or recycle. This airline substituted over 1000 single-use plastic items with environment-friendly items that have helped the airline to achieve zero-waste during a commercial flight
The world's tallest, 131-foot-tall, indoor waterfall was opened to the general public in Singapore	The waterfall is housed inside a dome-shaped complex that has gardens growing over four storeys, more than 280 retail and food outlets, a hotel and a movie theatre. The structure also has a botanical garden with 120 species of plants
The world's first-ever malaria vaccine was launched as a pilot project in Africa in 2019	Although vaccine protects only a third of children aged under two years from life-threatening or severe malaria, clinical trials have found those who are immunised are likely to have less severe cases of the disease
The world's largest airplane called 'Roc' weighing nearly 2,26,800 kilograms with a 385-foot wingspan took the first ever flight in California	Built by Stratolaunch, it's designed to launch rockets into orbit from the air. The plane is powered by six engines on a twin fuselage and is designed to fly to an altitude of 35,000 feet. The aircraft is so big its wingspan is longer than a football field, or about 1.5 times that of an Airbus A380
Russia launched the world's largest nuclear powered icebreaker named Ural	Russia is preparing for shipping via Northern sea route. This move will improve the ability to tap the Arctic's commercial potential. The Ural will be handed over to Rosatom (Russia's state-owned nuclear energy corporation) in 2022 after the other two icebreakers in the same series, Arktika (Arctic) and Sibir (Siberia) enter service.
China successfully tested the world's first armed amphibious drone boat named 'Marine Lizard'	Chinese military analysts claimed it is used in land assault operations and is capable of forming a combat triad with aerial drones and other drone ships. The 12-meter-long Marine Lizard is a trimaran propelled by a diesel-powered hydrojet and can reach a maximum speed of 50 knots while maintaining stealth. It has a maximum operation range of a maximum operation range of 1,200 km

The world's largest e-waste recycling plant became operational in Dubai	Recycling Hub has a processing capacity of 100,000 tonnes of total integrated waste per year, of which 39,000 tonnes is e-waste. The 280,000 square feet plant will process Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), IT asset disposition (ITAD), refrigerant gas and specialised waste
---	--

### International Appointments

Personality	Narration
Boris Johnson elected as the leader of Britain's governing Conservative Party.	He was declared as the country's next Prime Minister. Johnson will formally take over as Prime Minister. He succeeds Theresa May. She got stepped down over her failure to get parliament to ratify her Brexit deal.
SBI Managing Director Anshula Kant appointed World Bank's MD and CFO	While functioning her role as MD and CFO, Anshula Kant will be responsible for financial and risk management of World Bank Group and will report WB's President
Inger Andersen of Denmark is appointed as the new Executive Director of the UNEP	She was nominated to the post by UN Secretary-General António Guterres. The nomination was approved by acclamation by the UN General Assembly on 20 February. She will serve for a period of four years
Anita Bhatia appointed as Deputy Executive Director in UN Women	Indian-origin Anita Bhatia, a veteran in strategic partnerships, resource mobilization, and management, has been appointed by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres as the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for Resource Management, Sustainability, and Partnerships.
Indian actress Dia Mirza and Alibaba Chief Jack Ma are among the new 17 UN advocates for SDGs	The appointed UN advocates must drive action and strengthen the global political will to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs). Actress Dia Mirza is also the UN Environment Program Goodwill Ambassador for India.
United Nation's General Assembly elected Tijjani Muhammad-Bande as next president	Tijjani is the Nigeria's Ambassador to the UN. He will preside over the 47 <sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly scheduled to start in September, 2019

2019 Australia election: Scott Morrison sworn in as Prime Minister	Morrison became the PM through an internal party vote in August 2018 in which he replaced Malcolm Turnbull as the chief of the ruling Liberal Party, who was returned to the post by voters with increased majority in May 2019 election
Prayuth Chan-ocha elected as the Prime Minister of Thailand	Prayuth Chan-ocha of Palang Pracharat party was elected for a second term. He defeated Thanathorn Juangroongruangkit, leader of Future Forward party by a margin of 500 to 244 votes

### World Forums

Organization (Established in)	HQ	Headed by	2019 convention
United Nations (1945)	New York	Secretary General – Antonio Guterres	Multiple conventions
UN General Assembly	New York	President - H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés (Ecuador)	TBA
UNFCCC	Bonn, Germany	Executive Secretary - Patrica Espinosa	TBA
International Court of Justice (1945)	Netherlands	Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf	---
World Bank (1945)	Washington D.C	CEO - Kristalina Georgieva	---
IMF (1945)	Washington D.C	CEO - Christine Lagarde	---
UNESCO (1945)	Paris, France	Director-General - Audrey Azoulay	---
UNCTAD (1964)	Geneva, Switzerland	Secretary General – Mukhisa Kituyi	---
World Economic Forum (1971)	Geneva, Switzerland	Executive Chairman –Klaus Schwab	---
Commonwealth of Nations (1949)	London, UK	Queen Elizabeth II	---
World Intellectual Property Organization (1967)	Geneva, Switzerland	Director-General – Francis Gurry	---

New Development Bank (2015)	Shanghai, China	K V Kamath	---
BRICS (2009)	Shanghai, China	---	TBA
BIMSTEC (1997)	Dhaka, Bangladesh	Secretary General – Shahidul Islam	TBA
WHO (1948)	Geneva, Switzerland	Director General – Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus	---
ASEAN Summit (1967)	Jakarta, Indonesia	Secretary General – Lim Jock Hoi (Brunei)	TBA
UNICEF (1946)	New York	Exec Director - Henrietta Fore	---
OPEC (1960)	Vienna, Austria	Secretary General – Mohammed Sanusi Barkindo (Nigeria)	---
NATO (1949)	Brussels	Secretary General – Jens Stoltenberg	TBA
SAARC (1985)	Kathmandu	Secretary General – Amjad Hussain B. Sial (Pakistan)	TBA
NAM (1961)	Jakarta	Secretary General – Ilham Aliyev	Azerbaijan (2019)
G7/G8 (1976)	----	----	France(2019)
G20 (1999)	----	Mauricio Macri	TBA)
SCO (2001)	Beijing	Secretary General – Rashid Olimov	TBA
International Maritime Organization (1948)	London, UK	Secretary General – Kitack Lim (South Korea)	---
International Labour Organization (1919)	Geneva, Switzerland	Director General – Guy Ryder (UK)	TBA
Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum (1989)	Singapore	Chairperson – Sebastian Pinera	TBA

**Important Days**  
**Global Days**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>About it</b>
World Leprosy Day	Last Sunday of January	Observance of the day focuses on target of zero cases of leprosy-related disabilities in children 2019 Theme - "Ending discrimination, stigma and prejudice"
World Cancer Day	4 February	2019 Theme - "I Am & I Will," is an empowering call-to-action urging for personal commitment and represents the power of individual action taken now to impact the future
World Radio Day	13 February	On this day in 1946, UN Radio broadcasted first call sign 2019 Theme - "Dialogue, Tolerance and Peace"
International Mother Language Day	21 February	2019 Theme - "Indigenous languages matter for development, peace building and reconciliation"
World Wildlife Day	3 March	2019 Theme - "Life below water: for people and planet"
International Women's Day	8 March	2019 Theme - "Think equal, build smart, innovate for change"
PI Day	14 March	3,1,4 are significant digits of PI, i.e. 3.14), so 14/03, i.e. 14 March
World Consumer Rights Day	15 March	The day is observed to pay solidarity with the international consumer movement and give more attention to promote basic rights of consumers  2019 Theme - "Trusted Smart Products"
International Day of Happiness	20 March	The International Day of Happiness ("Happiness Day") was founded by UN adviser Jayme Illien on June 28, 2012 2019 Theme - "Share Happiness - focusing on the importance of

		relationships, kindness and helping each other”
World Water Day	22 March	The day focuses attention on the importance of fresh water & advocates for the sustainable management of freshwater resources  2019 Theme - “Leaving no one behind”
World Meteorological Day	23 March	It marks establishment of World Meteorological Organization  2019 Theme - “The Sun, the Earth and the Weather”
World Tuberculosis Day	24 March	WHO has placed special focus on uniting efforts to “Leave no one behind” including actions to address stigma, discrimination, marginalization and overcome barriers to access care  2019 Theme - “It’s time”
World Health Day	7 April	2019 Theme - “Universal health coverage: everyone, everywhere”
World Earth Day	22 April	2019 Theme - “Protect our species”
English Language Day/World Book Day	23 April	Birth anniversary of William Shakespeare  World Book Day 2019 Theme - “Share a story”
World Malaria Day	25 April	2019 Theme - “End Malaria for Good”
World Intellectual Property Day	26 April	2018 Theme - “Powering Change: Women in Innovation and Creativity”
World Press Freedom Day	3 May	2019 Theme - “Media for Democracy: Journalism and Elections in Times of Disinformation”
World Information Society Day	17 May	Marks foundation of International Telecommunication Union on 17 May 1865
No Tobacco Day	31 May	2019 Theme - “Tobacco and lung health”
World Milk Day	1 June	The day is intended to provide an opportunity to bring attention to activities connected with dairy sector



World Environment Day	5 June	2019 Theme - "Air Pollution"
World Oceans Day	8 June	2019 Theme - "Gender and Oceans"
World Day Against Child Labour	12 June	2019 Theme - "Children shouldn't work in fields, but on dreams!"
International Yoga Day/World Hydrography Day	21 June	21 June – The longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere  2019 Theme - "Yoga with Gurus"
World Population Day	11 July	World's population reached almost five billion people on 11 July 1987  2018 Theme - "Family Planning is a Human Right"
International Youth Day	12 August	2019 Theme – "Transforming education"
World Humanitarian Day	19 August	2019 Theme - "#WomenHumanitarians"
International Literacy Day	8 September	2019 Theme - "Literacy and Multilingualism"
International Day of Peace	21 September	2019 Theme - "Climate Action for Peace"
World Tourism Day	27 September	2019 Theme - "Tourism and Jobs – A better future for all"
International Day of Older Persons	1 October	2018 Theme - "Celebrating Older Human Rights Champions"
World Teachers Day	5 October	2018 Theme - "The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher"
World Sight Day	13 October	2018 Theme - "Universal Eye Health"
World Standard day	14 October	2019 Theme - 'Video Standards Create a Global Stage'
World Food Day	16 October	2019 Theme - "Our Actions are our Future Healthy Diets for a Zero Hunger World"
World Anaesthesia Day	16 October	----
World Statistics Day	20 October	----
United Nations Day	24 October	-----
World Toilet Day	19 November	2018 Theme - "When Nature Calls"

Universal Children's Day	21 November	2018 Theme - "Children are taking over and turning the world blue"
World AIDS Day	1 December	2018 Theme - 'Know Your Status'
World Computer Literacy Day	2 December	-----
International Day of Persons with Disabilities	3 December	2018 Theme - 'Empowering persons with disabilities and ensuring inclusiveness and equality'
World Soil Day	5 December	2018 Theme - 'Be the Solution to Soil Pollution'
Human Rights Day	10 December	2018 Theme - 'Stand Up For Human Rights'
International Migrants Day	18 December	2018 Theme - 'Migration with Dignity'

### Indian Days

Day	Date	Narration
Pravasi Bharatiya Divas	7-9 January	The day commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to Mumbai on 9 January 1915
National Youth Day	12 January	It marks birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda
National Voters Day	25 January	Marks Election commission's foundation on 25 January 1950
National Science Day	28 February	Marks discovery of the Raman Effect. 2018 theme - "Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future"
National Maritime Day	5 April	On this day in 1919, navigation history was created when SS Loyalty, the first ship of The Scindia Steam Navigation Company Ltd, journeyed to the UK
National Civil Services Day	21 April	All officers of Central and State Governments are honoured for excellence in public administration by the Prime Minister. The 'Prime Minister Award for Excellence in Public Administration' is presented
National Statistics Day	29 June	Birth anniversary of Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, an Indian scientist and applied statistician

		2018 theme is “Quality Assurance in Official Statistics”. It underscores the importance of compliance with essential parameters of quality in statistical systems and products
National Doctors Day (India)	1 July	Birth anniversary of Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy, the legendary physician
National Handloom Day	7 August	Union Minister of State, Textiles, Shri Ajay Tamta celebrated this at Guwahati
National Sports Day	29 August	Birth anniversary of Dhyan Chand, the Olympic Gold medallist hockey player by organizing friendly hockey matches in New Delhi
National Hindi Divas	14 September	On this day in 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India had adopted Hindi written in Devanagari script as the official language of the Republic of India
Engineer’s Day (India)	15 September	Birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Visvesvaraya. He is known as India's greatest engineer of all times
World Student Day	15 October	This day marks birth anniversary of Dr A P J Abdul Kalam
Rashtriya Ekta Diwas	31 October	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) was introduced by the Government of India and inaugurated by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014 for celebrating Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
National Education Day	11 November	Birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first education minister of independent India
National Constitution Day, National Milk Day	26 November	Birth anniversary of Dr.Verghese Kurien, Father of the White Revolution
National Mathematics Day	22 December	Birth anniversary of the Indian mathematical genius Srinivasa Ramanujan

Good Governance Day	25 December	Marks birth day of India's Ex-Prime Minister Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee
---------------------	-------------	---