

CURRENT AFFAIRS PDF – SEPTEMBER 2019

Awards and Honours

Name	Award Name	Extra Information
Prof Muhammad Yunus	'Lamp of Peace of Saint Francis ' award by Vatican	AIR PICNobel Laureate from Bangladesh Professor Muhammad Yunus was conferred the 'Lamp of Peace of Saint Francis ' award by the Vatican for his contribution towards establishing peace and harmony.
Anil Agarwal	Annual Asian Achievers Awards - lifetime achievement award	The year 2019 marks the 19th edition of Annual Asian Achievers Awards.
Sheikh Hasina	Dr Kalam Smriti International Excellence Award 2019	Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina was conferred Dr Kalam Smriti International Excellence Award 2019 in Dhaka (Bangladesh Capital).
Greta Thunberg	Amnesty International award	Climate change activist Greta Thunberg has won Amnesty International's Ambassador of Conscience Award.
Shri Pralhad Joshi	National Geoscience Awards	The National Geoscience Awards for the year 2018 for outstanding contributions in the field of geosciences, mining and allied areas.
Sonu Nigam	21st Century Icon Awards, UK	Popular Bollywood playback singer Sonu Nigam has been honoured with 'Magnificent Performing Arts Award' at the 21st Century Icon Awards in London United Kingdom (UK).
Lionel Messi	FIFA player of the year	Lionel Messi won the FIFA Men's Player of the Year award as beaten rival Cristiano Ronaldo stayed away from the star-studded ceremony in Milan's iconic La Scala Opera House.
Greta Thunberg	alternative Nobel Prize	Swedish teenager Greta Thunberg was named as one of four winners of the 2019 Right Livelihood Award.
Binny Bansal	IIT Delhi distinguished alumni award	Flipkart Co-founder Binny Bansal has become the youngest alumnus this year to be recognized as a distinguished alumnus by IIT Delhi.

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Sheikh Hasina	GAVI's 'Vaccine Hero' award	Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina has been conferred with prestigious 'Vaccine Hero' award of Global Alliance for Vaccination and Immunisations (GAVI) in recognition of Bangladesh's outstanding success in vaccination to immunise children.
PM Modi	Global Goalkeepers Award	Prime Minister Narendra Modi received the 2019 'Global Goalkeeper Award' by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation at a ceremony held on the sidelines of United Nation General Assembly (UNGA)
Amitabh Bachchan	Dadasaheb Phalke Award – 2018	Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan will be honoured with India's highest award in cinema, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award for the year 2018.
Tom Hanks	Cecil B DeMille Award at 2020 Golden Globes	Hollywood actor Tom Hanks will be honoured with Cecil B DeMille Award at the Golden Globe Awards on January 5, 2020, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association announced.
PT Usha	IAAF Veteran Pin Award	Former Indian athlete and Olympian PT Usha has been conferred with the prestigious International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) Veteran Pin Award. Usha received the award at the 52nd IAAF conference in Doha.
Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL)	international award for passenger satisfaction by ACI	Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) has been selected as the best airport in the Asia-Pacific region in terms of services it offered to passengers. The airport was recognized by Airport Council International (ACI).
Frank Lampard	FIFA's Fair Play award	Frank Lampard admitted he was stunned to see Marcelo Bielsa and Leeds win the FIFA Fair Play Award despite the 'Spygate' scandal that rocked the Championship club.

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Dr. G.B. Deglurkar	Punyabhushan Award	The eminent Archeologist Dr. G.B. Deglurkar was conferred with prestigious Punyabhushan Award for his long-standing contribution to the field of Indian Archaeology
Infosys	UN Global Climate Action Award	Information Technology (IT) major Infosys has won the United Nations Global Climate Action Award (UNGCAA) in the 'Climate Neutral Now' category for "Infosys' Journey to Carbon Neutrality".
Andhra Pradesh	National Tourism Awards	Andhra Pradesh bagged the top honour at the National Tourism Awards 2017-18, which were presented by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu.
K Siva Reddy	Saraswati Samman	K Siva Reddy is a Telugu poet. He was awarded the Saraswati Samman award for his collection Pakkaki Ottigilite in 2018.
Pandit Jasraj	International Astronomical Union has named a minor planet between Mars and Jupiter after an Indian classical singer Pandit Jasraj.	He is the first Indian musician to receive this honor.
Thanu Padmanabhan	MP Birla Memorial Award	The 62 year old Physicist and Cosmologist Thanu Padmanabhan was conferred the prestigious M P Birla Memorial Award 2019 for his contributions to the world of cosmology.

Appointments

Name	Designation	Extra Information
Kalraj Mishra	Governor of Rajasthan	President Ram Nath Kovind announced a major reshuffle.
Bandaru Dattatreya	Governor of Himachal Pradesh	President Ram Nath Kovind announced a major reshuffle.
Bhagat Singh Koshyari	Governor of Maharashtra	President Ram Nath Kovind announced a major reshuffle.
Arif Mohammed Khan	Governor of Kerala	President Ram Nath Kovind announced a major reshuffle.
Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan	Governor of Telangana	President Ram Nath Kovind announced a major reshuffle.

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Mukund Naravane	vice chief of Army	Lt Gen Manoj Mukund Naravane on Sunday assumed charge as vice chief of the 1.3 million-strong Army.
Anil Chauhan	Eastern Army Commander	Lieutenant General Anil Chauhan took over as the general officer commanding-in-chief, eastern command.
Sunil Arora	AWEB Chairman	Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sunil Arora assumed Chairmanship of Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB) for the term 2019-21.
Pravin Jadhav	MD and CEO – Paytm Money	Paytm Money, the wholly-owned subsidiary of One97 Communications that operates Paytm, said it has elevated Pravin Jadhav as Managing Director and chief executive officer.
Rakesh Srivastava	Nissan India - Managing Director	Nissan Motor India has roped in Rakesh Srivastava to lead the operation as Managing Director, multiple sources aware of the matter told ETAuto.
Sanjay Tyagi	Director General of Health Services	Tyagi, 61, is a Professor of Cardiology and Dean at Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC) and Director GB Pant Institute.
Dr Pramod Kumar Mishra	Principal Secretary to PM Modi	He was currently functioning as Additional Principal Secretary to PM Modi.
PK Sinha	Principal Advisor to PM Modi	P.K. Sinha as Principal Advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi with effect from 11 September 2019.
P Lakshmana Reddy	Andhra Pradesh Lokayukta	He was born in an agricultural family on April 18, 1945, in Paidipalem of Simhadripuram Mandal in Kadapa district.
Rajiv Kumar	MD of Microsoft India R&D	Microsoft has appointed Rajiv Kumar as the new Managing Director of Microsoft India (R&D) Private Limited (MIRPL), replacing Anil Bhansali, who held this role for six years.
Abhijit Guha	Chair of the Redeployment Coordination Committee (RCC) and head of the UNMHA.	UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed a veteran Indian Army official as the head

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		of the world body's observer mission in Yemen's port city of Hodeidah.
Anurag Katriar	president of NRAI	The National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI) announced the appointment of deGustibus Hospitality Executive Director and CEO Anurag Katriar as its new president.
Shashi Tharoor	Head - Standing Committee for Information Technology	The Government formed a Standing Committee for Information Technology comprising of 31 Members of Parliament (MP) from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha with Congress MP Shashi Tharoor as Chairperson of the committee.
Dr. B. Bala Bhaskar	Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Norway	B Bala Bhaskar appointed as the next Indian Ambassador to Norway. The ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Bala Bhaskar (IFS: 1993) appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Norway.
Pak Jong Chon	chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army	The decision was announced during a meeting attended by leader Kim Jong-un.
Vijay Kumar Chopra and Vineet Jain	Chairman and Vice Chairman of PTI	He served as the Chairman of PTI in 2001-02 and 2009-10 & as the President of the Indian Newspaper Society (INS).
Vikram Nath	Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court	Justice Vikram Nath has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court, the Law Ministry said.
Kapil Dev	Chancellor of Haryana Sports University	Cricket legend Kapil Dev will be the first Chancellor of the Haryana Sports University at Rai in Sonapat district.
Anjali Singh	India's first female military diplomat	Anjali Singh became India's first female military diplomat to be posted in any of the Indian missions abroad. Singh joined the Indian Embassy in Russia as the Deputy Air Attache.
Ramkumar Ramamoorthy	CMD – Cognizant	IT major Cognizant has appointed Ramkumar

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		Ramamoorthy, currently the executive director, as chairman and managing director of Cognizant India.
Sunil Paliwal	Chairman & MD of Kamarajar Port	Sunil Paliwal, a 1993 batch Tamil Nadu Cadre IAS Officer, took charge as Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Kamarajar Port Ltd.
RKS Bhadauria	next Chief of Indian Air Force	Government has decided to appoint present Vice Chief of Air Staff Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria as next Chief of Air Staff.
Madhukar Kamath	chairman of Audit Bureau of Circulations	Madhukar Kamath, chairman emeritus of advertising firm DDB Mudra group, has been elected as chairman of Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) for year 2019-2020.
Alison Rose	RBS chief executive	Alison Rose will be the first woman to lead one of Britain's biggest banks after Royal Bank of Scotland named her as its new chief executive.
Pallavi Shardul Shroff	IndiGo - independent director	Shroff, who's a managing partner at law firm Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co, has been inducted in the airline's board, with effect from 19 September, IndiGo said in a statement.
Samuel Joseph Jebaraj	DMD of IDBI Bank for 3 years	IDBI Bank's Board of Directors approved the appointment of Samuel Joseph Jebaraj as Deputy Managing Director (DMD) for a period of 3 years with effect from September 19, 2019.
Madhukar Kamath	chairman of Audit Bureau of Circulations	Madhukar Kamath, chairman emeritus of advertising firm DDB Mudra group, has been elected as chairman of Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) for year 2019-2020.
Shyam Srinivasan	Federal Bank CEO	The Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment of Shyam Srinivasan as the Managing Director and CEO of Federal Bank for another year

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Rajiv Kumar Vyas	GM of Rail Wheel Factory	Rajiv Kumar Vyas, has taken charge as General Manager, Rail Wheel Factory. Prior to this, he was holding the post of Adviser – Railway Stores Railway Board. Vyas, a civil engineer from IIT Delhi
Ponung Doming	Lieutenant Colonel In Indian Army	Ponung Doming is the first lady officer from Arunachal Pradesh in the Indian army to be elevated to the rank of Lieutenant colonel.
Nilesh Shah	Chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)	Nilesh Shah, Managing Director of Kotak Mahindra Asset Management
Kristalina Georgieva	IMF chief	The Bulgarian Economist Christina Georgieva was appointed as the new head of the International Monetary Fund.
Rajiva Sinha	New Chief Secretary of West Bengal	Rajiva Sinha will be the new chief secretary of West Bengal, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. Sinha is currently the additional chief secretary to the health and family welfare department.
Bipin Rawat	chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC).	He will replace Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa who will be retiring by the end of this month.
Harjit Singh Arora	Vice Chief of Indian Air Force	Air Marshal Harjit Singh Arora has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of Indian Air Force (IAF).
Vaijinath M. Gavarshetty	Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd (DHFL) - Chief Executive Officer	The board of directors of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd (DHFL) approved the appointment of Vaijinath M. Gavarshetty as the Chief Executive Officer
Sushil Lohani	Election Commission of India (ECI) - Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)	THE Election Commission of India (ECI) has approved the appointment of Sushil Kumar Lohani as next Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Odisha.
Jai Bhagwan Bhorla	new administrator for PMC Bank	Reserve Bank of India (RBI) superseded the Board of crisis-hit Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank Ltd. She is appointed Jai Bhagwan Bhorla

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		as the administrator of the bank.
Rajendra Menon	next Chairman of Armed Forces Tribunal	A Supreme Court bench headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi has recommended former Delhi High Court Chief Justice Rajendra Menon as the next chairman of Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT).
Marshal Rakesh Bhadauria	IAF Chief	Air Chief Marshal Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria took charge as the new Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF).
Suresh Chitturi	Chief of International Egg Commission	Suresh Chitturi, Vice Chairman and Managing Director of India's leading poultry firm Srinivasa Farms, has been appointed as chairman of the International Egg Commission (IEC).

Banking and Finance

Samsung India inks with Mastercard RBL Bank for mobile payments through Samsung Pay

- American multinational financial services corporation, Mastercard, Indian private sector bank, RBL Bank and Samsung India jointly launched the Samsung Pay for RBL Bank's Mastercard credit card customers.
- The tie-up will allow the customers of RBL bank to make contactless transactions with enhanced security on their Samsung Pay-compatible smartphones efficiently. The payments can be done through any PoS (Point of Sale) machine where a card can be dipped, swiped or tapped, both in India as well as abroad without the physical presence of a card.

ZestMoney partners with PayU for cardless EMI payment

- Digital lending platform ZestMoney has joined hands with another payment gateway, PayU. This means that the merchants can now offer the convenience of the cardless EMI payment option to consumers and increase their overall conversions.

Reserve of Bank of India tightens norms for banks up penalties

- Reserve Bank of India prescribed a turnaround time (TAT) for banks to settle failed transactions for customers and also notified compensations payable for various types of customer complaints. The financial compensation should be done suo motu by the bank, without waiting for a complaint or a claim by a customer.

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Bank of Baroda launches agri digital platform

- Bank of Baroda launched its agri digital platform “Baroda Kisan”. The platform can also be accessed on mobiles by farmers.
- “The web-based portal will cater to all the needs of farmers, including weather forecasts, crop conditions, the moisture levels of the soil, information on crop worms, market prices, special crop-related consultation,” the public sector bank said in a statement.

Max Bupa and Indian Bank ink bancassurance tie-up to offer health insurance solutions

- Max Bupa, a standalone health insurance player, has announced a bancassurance corporate agency agreement with Indian Bank, a state-owned bank.
- Under the agreement, Max Bupa will provide comprehensive health insurance solutions and services to over 40 million customers of Indian Bank spread across 2800 branch network, through a slew of digital touch points.

SBI links retail and MSME loans to repo rate

- State Bank of India (SBINSE -3.55 %), the country’s largest lender has linked all its floating rate loans to individuals and medium and small enterprises (MSMEs) to the Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) benchmark repo rate. In a media release the bank said that all floating rate loans will be linked to the RBI’s repo rate effective from October 1, 2019.

Airtel Partners With Bharti AXA Life, Offers Prepaid Plan With Rs 4 Lakh Insurance Cover

- Bharti Airtel has partnered with and Bharti AXA Life Insurance to leverage the deep penetration of mobile services and financial security in India. Airtel launched an innovative Rs. 599 pre-paid bundle with 2GB data/day, that offers unlimited calls to any network and 100 SMS/day, and Rs Four lakh life insurance cover from Bharti AXA Life Insurance.

Hyundai, Bank of Baroda tie up for vehicle finance

- Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL) said it has signed an agreement with Bank of BarodaNSE 2.41 % to be the preferred financier for its dealers and consumers.
- Under the agreement, the bank will provide detailed financing structure for both dealers and consumers, further enhancing its presence across network of Hyundai Motor India Ltd, the company said in a statement.

SBI Life signs corporate agency pact with Repco Home Finance

- SBI Life Insurance said it has signed a corporate agency agreement with city-based Repco Home Finance Ltd to offer the company’s range of products to RHFL customers.
- According to the agreement, the partnership would see over 148 branches and 27 satellite centres of RHFL spread across the country to offer SBI Life Insurance products to its customers.

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RBI puts curbs on PMC Bank, customers panic

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) put severe curbs on Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative (PMC) Bank, including on cash withdrawals, amid a probe into accounting lapses, sparking speculation that the regulator may force a management change through a merger.
- Cash withdrawals were capped at ₹1,000 per account for six months, spreading panic among depositors. PMC Bank has also been barred from making fresh loans and taking deposits.

Public Sector Banks to organise loan melas in 400 districts

- Public-sector banks (PSBs) hold public meetings with borrowers for distributing loans in 400 districts of the country to boost demand ahead of the festive season. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the banks will take help from non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).
- The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government will be following the footsteps of its predecessor, the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government introduced the concept of loan mela to boost credit by directing banks to lend to people through public meetings.

Asian Development Bank President Takehiko Nakao resigns

- Asian Development Bank President Takehiko Nakao announced his resignation which will be effective from January 16. He became the President of ADB on April 28, 2013.
- The new president will be elected in accordance with an open, transparent and merit-based procedure. The resignation with a deep sense of satisfaction and gratitude. With support from staff, Board members, and member governments.

RBI expands coverage of Bharat Bill Payment System

- In a consumer friendly initiative, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has expanded the scope and coverage of Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) to include all categories of billers who raise recurring bills and payments (except prepaid recharges) as eligible participants, on a voluntary basis.

Visa, BillDesk partner to roll out interface for recurring payments

- Visa, a global leader in payments technology, and BillDesk, leader in the Indian payments business, have partnered to roll out of SI-Hub, a seamless and secure way to make recurring payments using cards with a one-time enrollment.

Digital Payment Abhiyan: DSCI, MeitY and Google India join hands

- Nasscom's Data Security Council of India (DSCI) has collaborated with Union Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) and Google India to launch nationwide awareness campaign 'Digital Payment Abhiyan'. It was launched by Union Communications and Electronics & IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad at Google-organised event 'Google for India' in New Delhi.

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Airtel Payments Bank launches Bharosa savings account scheme

- Airtel Payments Bank has launched ‘Bharosa savings account’ which enables customers to withdraw cash, check their balance or access a mini statement of their account at over 6,50,000 Aadhaar-enabled payment system (AePS) enabled outlets across India. These services have been designed for deepening financial inclusion in the country.

ESIC ties up with SBI for DBT facility

- Employees State Insurance Corporation partnered with State Bank of India for direct transfer of benefits electronically into bank accounts of all stakeholders. The agreement signed between the two departments SBI will provide e-payment services directly to bank accounts of all ESIC beneficiaries and payees without any manual intervention as an integrated and automated process.

IDBI Bank to divest stake in insurance joint venture

- The Union cabinet approved infusing ₹19,300 crore into IDBI Bank, the lender announced plans to sell its stake in its insurance joint venture IDBI Federal Life Insurance company.

RBI bars Equitas Small Finance Bank from opening new branches, caps CEO pay

- The Reserve Bank of India has barred Equitas Small Finance Bank from opening new branches after it missed the deadline to list its shares on stock exchanges, a key licensing condition.
- The RBI also froze the salary of Equitas SFB’s managing director and CEO, Vasudevan PN, at the existing level, parent Equitas Holdings Ltd said in a stock-exchange filing.

Bank of Baroda set to raise capital up to Rs 3,000 crore through tier-II bonds

- Public sector lender Bank of Baroda (BoB) is planning to raise capital up to Rs 3,000 crore via tier-II bonds in a bid to meet capital competence norms for the amalgamated entity (integration of Vijaya and Dena Bank with BoB).
- Rating agency India Ratings has given “AAA” stable rating to proposed bond offering by the public lender. Ratings for state-owned lender play a pivotal role in large franchise, a pan-India presence, adequate funding base and liquidity.

Wipro bags USD 300 million contracts from ICICI Bank

- Wipro has won a 7-year contract worth \$300 million from ICICI Bank. The project is to provide a range of services. The transactions are expected to end by September 30. For this project, Wipro is to hire 3,800 employees of Varma Infotech.

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StanChart launches DigiSmart card

- Standard Chartered Bank has launched a DigiSmart credit card that is focussed on millennials. The card is available for a monthly fee of ₹49, which will, however, be waived off if the customer spends more than ₹5,000 in the previous month.

State Bank of India revises service charges for deposits and withdrawals from October

- State Bank of India or SBI on its website regarding revision of service charges with effect from 1st October. The bank allows free transactions to its customers at ATMs for 8-10 times in a month.
- The mandated number of free transactions, SBI charges a certain amount to its customers. Effective 1st October. SBI will also charge for transaction decline due to insufficient balance and cardless cash withdrawal at ATMs.

World Bank to sanction Rs 3,000 cr for food parks: Govt

- The World Bank will provide Rs 3,000 crore funds to finance mini and mega food parks across the country, particularly in Northeast, and help boost farmers' income, Union Minister Rameswar Teli said. Minor formalities remain to be completed on this front before the first disbursement of the sanctioned amount is released, the Minister of State for Food Processing Industries said.

State Bank Of India To Sell Up To 4.5% Stake In SBI Life Insurance

- State Bank of India said it will sell stake in its life insurance arm to meet the minimum public shareholding norms. SBI's board has approved an offer-for-sale of at least 3.5 percent stake—or 3.5 crore shares—in SBI Life Insurance Company Ltd., with an option of oversubscription of 1 percent, India's largest lender informed the exchanges.

SBI to offer MUDRA loans to Kerala broiler farmers

- The local head office of State Bank of India has entered into a tie-up with Kudumbashree Broiler Farmers Producers Company and Kudumbashree Mission for financing poultry farmers under the Kerala Chicken (Kudumbashree) project.
- The Kudumbashree Mission refers to the State Poverty Eradication Mission that also doubles up as a campaign for women empowerment, under the Department of Local Self-Government, Kerala.

IDBI to launch co-branded credit card with LIC

- Life Insurance Corporation of India, IDBI Bank is planning to launch a co-branded credit card which will be marketed to customers, agents, and employees of the corporation and its subsidiaries.
- The co-branded credit card will be launched in association with LIC's wholly-owned subsidiary, LIC Credit Cards Services (LIC CSL) before the festival season of Diwali gets underway, said Jorty M Chacko Executive Director, IDBI Bank.

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Can Fin Homes, Bajaj Allianz tie up

- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance and Can Fin Homes Limited have announced a corporate agency agreement for the distribution of the general insurer's products.
- "Under this deal, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance will offer personal lines of insurance products, such as health, personal accident, home, motor and travel, with a special focus on long-term dwelling insurance for home-loan customers, critical illness, and PA cover for loan borrowers," the insurer said.

Bank of Baroda set to raise capital up to Rs 3,000 crore through tier-II bonds

- Public sector lender Bank of Baroda (BoB) is planning to raise capital up to Rs 3,000 crore via tier-II bonds in a bid to meet capital competence norms for the amalgamated entity (integration of Vijaya and Dena Bank with BoB).
- Rating agency India Ratings has given "AAA" stable rating to proposed bond offering by the public lender. Ratings for state-owned lender play a pivotal role in large franchise, a pan-India presence, adequate funding base and liquidity

RBI allows PMC Bank customers to withdraw up to Rs 10,000

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has eased the restrictions on depositors of Punjab & Maharashtra Cooperative Bank (PMC Bank), two days after it put a Rs 1,000 cap on the money a saver could withdraw, triggering protests.

SBI new ATM withdrawal charges, revision from October 1

- SBI charges a fee ranging from ₹5 plus GST to ₹20 plus GST for any additional transactions beyond this limit. Effective 1st October, SBI will charge ₹20 plus GST for transaction decline due insufficient balance. SBI will also charge ₹22 plus GST for cardless cash withdrawal at ATMs.
- For all salary accounts at all locations, SBI offers free unlimited transactions at State Bank Group (SBG) ATMs and other bank ATMs.

Indian Affairs

Airports to get Full body scanner

- Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has announced that all airports in the country will be equipped with full-body scanners in the next two years. BCAS has made it mandate to equip all airports with body scanners.
- The introduction of such scanning is to improve the security in all the airport. The current equipment at airports cannot detect non-metallic explosives. Hence such advancement of security is to be implemented.

Google and MeitY launch 'Build for Digital India' programme for engineering students

- Google and Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) have jointly launched 'Build for Digital India' programme that will offer a platform to engineering students to develop market-ready, technology-based solutions that address key social problems.

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1st National Conference on Cyber Crime Investigation inaugurated in New Delhi

- First National Conference on Cyber Crime Investigation and Cyber Forensics is being held on 4-5 September 2019 at Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Headquarters in New Delhi. It was inaugurated by CBI Director Rishi Kumar Shukla.

PM inaugurates Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal at Sahibganj

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's second Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal (built at Sahibganj) online from Ranchi, Jharkhand. He also laid the foundation of a secretariat building in the state capital (Ranchi) which will come up at an estimated cost of Rs.1238.92 crore.

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates Steel Chintan Shivir

- Union Minister for Steel and Petroleum & Natural Gas, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan participated in the Chintan Shivir

Aim:

- Towards a Vibrant, Efficient and Globally Competitive Indian Steel sector, organized by Ministry of Steel. The event aims to bring all stakeholders together to deliberate on a roadmap for making Indian Steel Sector more vibrant, efficient and globally competitive.

India to invest Rs 230 crore in World Expo pavilion

- India will invest Rs 230 crore in constructing the India Pavilion at the World Expo 2020 in Dubai next year and plans to raise Rs 200 crore from participation charges, publicity and sponsorships. Investment would be in construction, curation, interiors, maintenance and security.

Social Justice Minister T C Gehlot launches MIS portal under Accessible India Campaign

- Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thaawar chand Gehlot launched a Management Information System (MIS) under Accessible India Campaign in New Delhi. The portal is made fully accessible for Divyangjans. It will be useful in maintaining all the function on digital platform and capture data on a real – time basis.

Cabinet approves promulgation of Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Ordinance 2019

- Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the Promulgation of Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement) Ordinance, 2019. The decision is being seen as a major health and wellness initiative for the country.

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Government notifies 8.65% interest rate for over 6 crore EPF

- The government has approved 8.65 per cent interest rate on employees provident fund for 2018-19, which will now be credited into the accounts of over 6 crore subscribers of retirement fund body EPFO.

Week-Long IPCC Meet on Climate Change begins in New Delhi

- India is hosting the Second Lead Author Meeting of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group III Sixth Assessment Report at New Delhi, beginning 30th September to 4th October 2019.

India to develop 60 supercomputers in 3 years

- Government of India has decided to indigenously build 60 supercomputers in the next three years. The announcement was made by Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary of Department of Science and Technology.

118 new Community Radio Stations to be set-up in India

- Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar announced that 118 new Community Radio Stations (CRS) are in process of being set-up across country. The approved lists of applicants have already been granted Letter of Intent (LoI) for setting up CRS. It is expected that these Community Radio Stations will become operational within a period of next 6 months.

Railways Ministry signs MoU with CII for facilitation of green initiatives

- Union Ministry of Railways signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) for facilitation of green initiatives in Indian Railways.
- The MoU would carry forward some major Green initiatives undertaken by Indian Railways as part of India's contribution towards mitigation of global warming and combating climate change.

Glorious Diaspora – Pride of India': Book on Pravasi Bharatiya Samman awardees released

- A Coffee Table Book titled 'Glorious Diaspora- Pride of India' on Pravasi Bharatiya Samman awardees was released by Vice President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu in New Delhi.

About 'Glorious Diaspora- Pride of India'

- The book contains the brief profiles of recipients of Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards (PBSA) from 2003 to 2019. It has been brought out by Indian Diaspora Club. It includes inspiring profile of Distinguished Overseas Indians who have made their indelible mark in various fields.

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Maritime Communication Services in India launched

- Maritime Communication Services to offer broadband services to support those travelling at sea was launched at Mumbai, Maharashtra. Along with Maritime Communication Services, a web portal for reporting stolen mobiles to help trace them was also launched.
- This portal is under a project called Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) system, which has been undertaken by Department of Telecom for addressing security, theft and other concerns including reprogramming of mobile handsets.

UNESCO to publish Guru Nanak Dev's writing in world languages

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has decided to translate and publish an anthology of writings of Baba Guru Nanak Dev, the founder of Sikhism (and also 1st of 10 Sikh Guru) in world languages to commemorate 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev.

ERSS-112 launched in Delhi, 15 Prakhar vans also flagged off

- The next time you have a fire emergency and simultaneously need police and ambulance assistance, instead of calling three separate helpline numbers – 100 (police), 101 (fire), and 102 (ambulance) just dial “112”. The emergency response support system (ERSS-112) was launched in Delhi by union minister of state for home affairs, G Kishan Reddy.

President Kovind inaugurated 6th India Water Week

- The 6th India Water Week -2019 was inaugurated by the President Shri Ram Nath Kovind in Delhi on 24th September. The week is being organized by the Ministry of Jal Shakti. It is being organized since 2012. The international event to focus on water-related issues. So far, 5 editions of India Water Week have been organized.

India's second largest railway overbridge in West Bengal

- Indian Railways has completed the construction of the giant four-lane cable-stayed railway overbridge (RoB) at Burdwan Junction in West Bengal. The RoB, considered to be the second largest in the country will be inaugurated by Railway Minister Piyush Goyal.

Vice President inaugurates 150th Birth Anniversary celebrations of Vaidyaratnam P.S. Warriar

- At Kottal in Kerala, vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Vaidyaratnam P.S. Warriar. He emphasized the importance of Ayurvedic medicine and Atharva Veda at the event.

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About Vaidyaratnam P S Warriier

- He was an Ayurvedic physician. He founded Kottakal Arya Vaidyasala in 1902 for manufacture and sale of Ayurvedic medicines in India. He also established a Ayurvedic Patasala in 1917 that is now operating as an Ayurveda college.

Union Minister Gehlot launches MIS portal under Accessible India Campaign

- Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thaawarchand Gehlot launched the Management Information System (MIS) portal for stakeholders of the Accessible India Campaign (AIC).
- The Fully accessible for divyangjans. The MIS has been developed by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Four new Supreme Court judges appointed

- The new judges are Haryana High Court Chief Justice Krishna Murari, Himachal Pradesh High Court Chief Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Rajasthan High Court Chief Justice S Ravindra Bhat and Kerala High Court Chief Justice Hrishikesh Roy.
- The Supreme Court Collegium recommended names of chief justices and high court judges for the appointment to the top court in order to fill the vacant posts.

IIT Kharagpur researchers generate electricity with clothes

- Researchers from IIT Kharagpur have developed a unique approach of generating electricity from drying clothes in natural ambiance, which is otherwise a part and parcel of our daily livelihood.
- By utilizing tiny channels, so called nanochannels, in the cellulose-based fabric network traditionally woven, electrical power generation has been made possible by achieving guided movement of saline water amidst a continuous evaporation, very much analogous to water transport across the parts of a living plant.

India to achieve 26 bn dollars Defence Industry by 2025: Rajnath Singh

- Defence minister Rajnath Singh has said, India will achieve 26 Billion dollars Defence Industry by 2025. Speaking at the annual function of Society of Indian Defence Manufactures in New Delhi, Mr Singh said.
- Defence sector has been identified as one of the most prominent sectors under Make in India initiative to realize 5 Trillion dollar Economy by 2024. He said, performance of Indian defence industry has not been commensurate with its potential in past.

India Post Starts Speed Post Service to Six New Foreign Countries

- India Post expanded speed post service to six new foreign destinations in Asia, Europe, and South America. The Department of Posts announced commencing of International Speed Post EMS Service to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Ecuador, Kazakhstan, Lithuania and North Macedonia.

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National Seminar on ‘Emerging Trends in Public Architecture’ held in New Delhi

- A National Seminar on ‘Emerging Trends in Public Architecture’ was held on 18 September 2019 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Seminar was inaugurated by Hardeep S. Puri, Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs.

Rajnath Singh becomes first Defence Minister to fly in Tejas fighter aircraft

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh flew in the Tejas fighter aircraft from the HAL airport in Bengaluru, becoming the first defence minister to fly in the indigenously-built light combat aircraft (LCA).

Dr. Jitendra Singh chaired 31st SCOVA meeting

- Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, chaired 31st meeting of Standing Committee of Voluntary Agencies (SCOVA), held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

PM Modi launches BEML-built coach for Mumbai metro

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched an indigenously-built metro coach to be used by the upcoming Mumbai metro network.
- The coach, the first in the list of 500 to be delivered to the Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation, has been built by Bharat Earth Movers NSE -0.42 % (BEML) at its Bengaluru facility in flat 75 days.

India’s domestic air passenger traffic beats global trend, up by 8.9% in July

- At a time when the global air passenger growth is decreasing, Indian domestic air passenger market clocked an 8.9% growth in July this year when compared to the same month last year, international airlines body IATA said.
- Moreover, India’s July RPK (Revenue Passenger Kilometre) growth at 8.9% was higher than what was observed in June this year at 8.2%.

India’s life expectancy improves marginally

- India has seen an improvement in overall life expectancy at birth to 69 years, with women expected to live for 70.4 years and men for 67.8 years, according to the latest Sample Registration Survey (SRS) for 2013-17.
- 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.

WPI inflation dips to 1.08% in August

- Wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation for August came in at 1.08 per cent, much lower than 4.62 per cent recorded in the same month last year. On a sequential basis, WPI remained at the same level recorded in July.

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MFIN and Sa-Dhan launches ‘Code for Responsible Lending’

- Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN) and Sa-Dhan along with FIDC (Finance Industry Development Council) have jointly launched the ‘Code for Responsible Lending’ (CRL) for the micro credit industry. The CRL was launched at Sa-Dhan’s 15th Annual National Conference held in New Delhi.
- Sa-Dhan is Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recognised self-regulatory organisation and industry association for the microfinance industry.

Centre to infuse ₹12,000 crore in state general insurance firms

- Following the recapitalisation of public sector banks (PSBs), now public sector insurance companies — National Insurance, Oriental Insurance and United India Insurance — are going to be infused with funds worth ₹12,000 crore to boost their capital base and meet regulatory norms, sources said
- The Budget had provisioned ₹70,000 crore for PSB recapitalisation and last week a ₹55,250-crore infusion was announced in several PSBs for regulatory and growth requirements.

PM to launch a new initiative to control FMD

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to launch a new initiative in the National disease management Programme for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis. Under this scheme, the Centre will allocate Rs.13,500 crore central scheme to control livestock diseases.

First IoT in Mini Piped Water Scheme launched at Amingaon

- The Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) Assam and Piramal Water Pvt Ltd (Piramal Sarvajal), launched a project on the deployment of the first Internet of Things (IoT) solution in single village mini piped water supply scheme.

Loktantra Ke Swar’ (Hindi): Books on President’s speeches released

- Vice President of India M. Venkaiah Naidu released the Books on President’s speeches titled ‘Loktantra Ke Swar (Khand 2)’ in Hindi and ‘The Republican Ethic (Volume 2)’ in English in a function organized at Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra in New Delhi.

Free LPG Ujjwala scheme achieves 8 cr target before schedule

- The government will achieve the target of giving 8 crore free cooking gas (LPG) connections to the poor nearly seven months ahead of schedule with Prime Minister Narendra Modi set to handover the 8-croreth connection.

68th Plenary of the North Eastern Council (NEC) in Guwahati

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has asserted that the Article 371, which provides special provisions for North Eastern states, will not be tampered with.

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- Addressing the 68th Plenary of the North Eastern Council (NEC) in Guwahati, Mr. Shah allayed apprehensions of North Eastern people regarding Article 371, following the abrogation of Article 370.

India's life expectancy improves marginally

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- 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.

Ministry of WCD organized Poshan Maah event

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) as part of the POSHAN Maah organized a one day camp in Shastri Bhavan in New Delhi. Rabindra Panwar, Secretary, Ministry of WCD inaugurated the Test, Treat and Talk (T 3) Anaemia and Defeat Diarrhoea (D 2) camp in New Delhi. The Ministry aims to create awareness regarding simple solutions to Anaemia and Diarrhoea.

India Tourism Mart exhibition inaugurated

- Culture and Tourism Minister Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated the exhibition of India Tourism Mart (ITM), 2019 in New Delhi. Over 240 international delegates from 51 countries and 160 exhibitors from across the country are taking in part in the second edition of ITM.

Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prizes 2019

- President of India Ram Nath Kovind, presented Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prizes 2019, for outstanding contributions in science and technology at a function held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. The awards were presented on the occasion of the 78th Foundation Day of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

Project 'Bal Basera' at AIIMS Rishikesh to be inaugurated on 9 Sept

- Bal Basera or a Crèche is a project for the welfare of Children of Construction Workers was deployed at AIIMS Rishikesh site. The project is supported by Central Public Works Department (CPWD). It will be inaugurated by Deepa Singh, President CPWD Officers' Wives Association on 9 September 2019.
- Bal Basera shall accommodate about 35 Children and shall be run by CPWD Officers' Wives Association (OWA). AIIMS Rishikesh Project is being executed by CPWD.

UNCCD COP14: Drought Toolbox launched

- At the ongoing 14th Conference of Parties (COP14) to United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida a Drought Toolbox was launched on the 10th day of conference (on 11 September 2019) which was dedicated to the theme of Drought.

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- India is hosting the ongoing UNCCD COP14 that started from 2 September and will culminate on 13 September 2019.

Foundation Stone for Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) laid In Mumbai

- Union Minister of state for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) Mahendra Nath Pandey laid the foundation stone for Indian Institute of Skill (IIS) at Mumbai, Maharashtra. The concept of IIS was envisaged by Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he had visited Vocational Education and Training Centre in Singapore.

India joins global antimicrobial resistance R&D hub

- India has become a member of the Global Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Research and Development (R&D) Hub. The announcement was made by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology in New Delhi on September 12, 2019.

HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal presents CBSE teacher awards 2018

- Union Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ presented CBSE Teacher Awards – 2018 to 34 teachers at an event here. The minister also launched CBSE’s portal ‘Vidyadhan’ on Diksha App, a digital infrastructure for knowledge sharing and released CBSE’s annual activity calendar.

NGT forms committee to stop illegal groundwater extraction

- Expressing concern over depleting groundwater levels, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has set up a committee to formulate steps required to prevent its unauthorised extraction.
- A bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel directed the committee to evolve a robust mechanism to ensure that groundwater is not illegally extracted and to monitor manning and functioning of the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA).

Narendra Modi to gift ‘Gandhi Solar Park’ to UN in New York

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will gift ‘Gandhi Solar Park’ to the United Nations when he attends the Climate Action Summit 2019 in New York, during his week long visit to the US.
- The 50 kilowatt hour (kWh) roof-top solar park has 193 solar panels—each representing a member of the multilateral body. The \$1 million gift to the UN comes at a time when India has emerged as a clean energy champion.

Shri Amit Shah launches Emergency Response Support System ERSS- Dial 112

- Union Minister for Home Affairs, Shri Amit Shah launched three citizen centric services of the Chandigarh Police, in Chandigarh. The services include the Emergency Response Support System (ERSS – Dial 112), ‘E-Beat Book’ System and the ‘E-Saathi App’.

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National Conference on Agriculture- Rabi Campaign 2019 held in New Delhi

- National Conference on Agriculture for Rabi Campaign 2019 was organized on 20 September 2019 at NASC, Pusa in New Delhi. The conference was inaugurated by Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- The Conference was also attended by senior officers from Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), DARE, Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) & State Governments and Union Territories (UTs).

India's fuel demand rose 2.8% YoY in August

- India's fuel demand rose 2.8 percent in August compared with the same month last year. Consumption of fuel, a proxy for oil demand, totalled 17.04 million tonnes, data from the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) of the oil ministry showed

CBDT launches one-time facility for compounding of income tax offences

- A one-time facility to apply for compounding of income tax offences has been launched and taxpayers can avail this opportunity by December 31, a latest CBDT directive said. It said this "one-time measure" is being undertaken to mitigate unintended hardship to taxpayers in deserving cases and to reduce the pendency of existing prosecution cases before the courts."

Indian Railways wins Best Ministry for Implementation of Swachhata Action Plan for 2018-19

- On occasion of Swachh Mahotsav 2019 held at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi (on 6 September 2019), President of India Ram Nath Kovind presented an award to Indian Railways as Best Ministries for Implementation of Swachhata Action Plan for 2018-19.

After serving for 36 years, Titan MD Bhaskar Bhat says, 'It's time'

- When he hangs up his boots this month-end, Bhaskar Bhat, managing director (MD) at Titan, says that it's the people in the company that he is going to miss the most. For someone who spent nearly 36 years with Titan, associated with the company even before the brand existed, Bhat is definitely a people man.

IIT Madras finds an eco-friendly way to degrade plastics

- Three years ago researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras observed silver slowly dissolving in a glucose solution when heated to 70 degree C. Now, the team has demonstrated an environment-friendly strategy to degrade the chemically inert and physically stable plastic fluoropolymer — polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) of which Teflon is made.

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Savarkar: Echoes from a forgotten past, 1883-1924 book was released

- Bengaluru-based historian Vikram Sampath's book titled Savarkar: Echoes from a forgotten past, 1883-1924 was released. The book was published by Penguin.

About the book:

- Savarkar: Echoes from a forgotten past, 1883-1924 book describes the life of freedom fighter and Philosopher Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. He was popularly known as Veer Savarkar.

Two new species of ginger was discovered from Nagaland

- Research Scientists from the biological science Survey of India (BSI) have discovered 2 new species of ginger. Zingiber prenense has been discovered from the Peren district of Nagaland and Zingiber dimapurensis was found within the Dimapur in Nagaland on 11th Sept.

PM Modi meets PM of St. Vincent and Grenadines in New Delhi

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Prime Minister of St. Vincent and Grenadines Dr. Ralph Everard Gonsalves in New Delhi. Prime Minister R.E Gonsalves who is on a first ever visit of Prime Minister of St. Vincent and Grenadines to India is also participating in high-level United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD) Symposium, a 12-day conference being held from 2-13 September 2019 at Greater Noida.

Prime Minister to Launch Kisan Man Dhan Yojana on the 12th of September

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is schedule to launch Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana on 12 September 2019 at Ranchi in Jharkhand. During his visit, PM Modi will also inaugurate- 400 Ekalvya Model Residential Schools to provide quality upper primary, secondary, and senior secondary level education to ST Stude.

UMMID initiative to tackle inherited genetic diseases of newborn babies

- Minister of Science, Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr. Harsh Vardhan inaugurated five diagnostic centres under the program Unique Methods of Management and treatment of Inherited Disorders (UMMID) to tackle the menace of genetic diseases in newborns.
- This initiative of the government will help the future generation in treating and preventing these diseases caused by genetic disorders.

India lost 31% of grasslands in a decade

- India lost 31 per cent, or 5.65 million hectares (mha), of grassland area in a decade, showed data the Union government presented to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) during the ongoing 14th Conference of Parties

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(COP). The total area under grasslands reduced to 12.3 mha from 18 mha between 2005 and 2015.

India and NITTTR signs MoU to set up digital simulation lab in Chandigarh

- With an aim to impart better training quality for the large scale industrialisation of the country, the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR) and Swiss power major ABB India have signed the MoU to set up a digital simulation lab in Chandigarh.

PM Modi to launch National Animal Disease Control Programme

- Taking a step closer towards realising the electoral promise of doubling farm income by 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to launch the National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP) for eradicating the foot and mouth disease and brucellosis in livestock.

Centre sets up 3-member panel to oversee bifurcation of J&K into two Union Territories

- Centre has set up a three-member panel to oversee the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories. In a tweet, Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the committee will look into the distribution of assets and liabilities of Jammu and Kashmir between two successor Union territories, which will come into existence on 31st of October this year.

Five institutes are awarded IoE

- The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) on the guidance of the University Grants Commission (UGC) and master board of trusty has awarded the Institutions of Eminence (IoE) title 5 institutes. The 5 institutes are IIT-Madras, Banaras Hindu University, IIT-Kharagpur, University of Delhi and the University of Hyderabad.

Unani Medical Centre to be inaugurated at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for AYUSH Shripad Yesso Naik will be inaugurating Unani Medical Centre at New OPD Building in Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi on 13 September 2019.

GST collection up 4.51% in August at ₹98,202 crore

- The gross goods and services tax (GST) collection in August, 2019 stood at ₹98,202 crore, up 4.51% compared to ₹93,960 crore in the same month last year.
- The GST collection, although higher on year-on-year basis, is still lower than government's expectations of ₹1 trillion.

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NTPC Collaborates With IOCL to Commission 1st EV Charging Station

- State-owned power utility NTPC Ltd. has announced the commissioning of its first electric vehicle (EV) charging station along with the Indian Oil Corporation (IOCL). The charging station has been installed at an IOCL petrol pump in Greater Noida.
- The two companies have joined hands to set up many such charging stations. “This EV charging station is the first in a series of such charging stations which have been planned across cities and highways,” the company said in a statement.

Govt to infuse Rs 9,000 crore in IDBI as bailout money

- Financially troubled IDBI Bank is all set to receive Rs 9,000 crore bailout money from the centre. Life Insurance Corporation has been seeking this infusion for the past several months. While insurance giant LIC will have to pour in nearly Ra 4,500 crore as its share, centre will invest a matching contribution, reveal sources.

KVIC launches ‘Terracotta Grinder’ at Varanasi to reuse wasted pottery

- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) launched first ever ‘Terracotta Grinder’ at Sewapuri in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. This machine will grind the wasted and broken pottery items for re-using in pottery-making.

New Motor Vehicles Act from today: Rs 10,000 fine for drunk driving, jail for violations under law

- Violating traffic rules will attract harsher penalty from as the newly amended Motor Vehicles Act comes into force. Driving under the influence of alcohol, not giving way to ambulances or fire brigade will attract a penalty of Rs 10,000 or imprisonment starting September 1. In some cases, an individual violating laws could end up paying the fine and going to jail.

ECI hosts 4th General Assembly of Association of World Election Bodies

- Election Commission of India (ECI) is hosting the 4th General Assembly of Association of World Election Bodies (AWEB) for the term 2019-21 at Bengaluru on 3rd September 2019. On 4 September, an International Conference on Initiatives and Challenges of Social Media and Information Technology in Elections will also be held during the AWEB meeting.

Tinsukia Railway station become the 4000th station in the country to have free public WiFi

- Tinsukia Railway station in the State of Assam has become the 4000th station in the country to have free public Wi-Fi. Under RailWire, free Wi-Fi is being provided to passengers.
- Railwire is a retail Broadband initiative of RailTel catering to Enterprises, Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and homes. The Wi-Fi plan was rolled out in 1000 stations in a record time of 12 days by RailTel with an average of 83 stations per day.

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ECL Finance and Central Bank of India entered into an agreement to co-lend to MSME

- ECL Finance Ltd, a subsidiary of Edelweiss Financial Services, and Central Bank of India have signed an agreement for priority sector lending to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) customers.

PM Modi to get award from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to receive an award from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for one of his ambitious projects- Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan (SBA). This award will be conferred to him during his visit to United States in late September 2019

14th UNCCD COP inaugurated at Greater Noida

- The 12-day 14th Conference of Parties (COP14) to UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) inaugurated at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
- During the meet, Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Prakash Javadekar expressed that mass awareness and public participation is the need of the hour as be it climate change or desertification, human actions have a role in disturbing balance of nature.

Cabinet approves Rs.9300 crore capital infusion for IDBI Bank

- The Cabinet has approved a capital infusion plan worth Rs.9,300 crore for IDBI Bank. The bank will get the amount from its parent, Life Insurance Corp. of India. The aim of the move is to help narrow IDBI's losses and boost its lending capacity.
- The Cabinet cleared the IDBI Bank recapitalization plan with one-time infusion assets by the administration and Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) and shares of IDBI Bank jumped as much as 10.84% after the declaration.

Vaishno Devi shrine named country's 'Best Swachh Iconic Place'

- Mata Vaishno Devi shrine atop the Trikuta hills in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir has been named country's 'Best Swachh Iconic Place'. President Ram Nath Kovind will confer the award to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) during the 'Swachh Mahotsav' to be organised by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation on 6 September 2019.

National Conference on 'India-Africa Partnership in a Changing Global Order' held in New Delhi

- National Conference on 'India-Africa Partnership in a Changing Global Order: Priorities, Prospects and Challenges' held in New Delhi. It was organized by Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA).

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India's first-ever helicopter summit held in Dehradun

- Union Ministry of Civil Aviation organised country's first ever helicopter summit at Sahasradhara helidrome in Dehradun, capital of Uttarakhand. The summit was based on theme of expanding connectivity through helicopters.

India Ratings cuts NBFC growth forecast to 10-12 per cent in FY20

- In an indication of continued concerns for the NBFC sector, India Ratings revised its outlook for the non-banking finance companies to negative from stable and also maintained its negative outlook on large ticket housing finance companies (HFCs).
- The agency also cut its growth forecast for NBFCs for 2019-20 to 10 per cent to 12 per cent from the earlier estimate of 15 per cent due to funding challenges and slowdown in economic activity, which is evident from the fall in auto sales, slowdown in rural infra activity and small and medium enterprises (SME) challenges.

Visitor's Awards 2019: Recipients announced

- Recipients of Visitor's Awards 2019 for research in various fields were announced by President's Secretariat. The award will be conferred by President's Secretariat. The award will be conferred by President Ram Nath Kovind at an event to be held at Rashtrapati Bhavan the date for which is yet to be announced.

Great Ganga Run-2019 flagged off in New Delhi

- Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju today flagged off Great Ganga Run-2019 at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi.
- It was organized to create awareness about the river Ganga. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Shekhawat said, participation of the people in the run corroborates the fact that people are not only aware of the importance of water but are active to conserve the important resource.

National Conference on Crop Residue Management held in New Delhi

- Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare inaugurated National Conference on Crop residue Management for farmers from states of Punjab, Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. The conference was held at New Delhi.

68th Plenary session of North Eastern Council held in Guwahati, Assam

- 68th Plenary session of North Eastern Council (NEC) was held in Guwahati, Assam on 8- 9 September 2019. Plenary session was inaugurated by Union Home Minister Amit Shah.
- All Governors and Chief Ministers of 8 north eastern states and senior officials from states and key Union Ministries also attended the meet. They suggested on increasing the scope of NEC's interventions in Region and improving funds flow to states.

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IRDAI to liberalise norms for trade credit insurance

- In a move that can positively impact the availability of finance for trade, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) will liberalise norms for trade credit insurance.
- Trade credit insurance is generally offered for short-term receivables in business and is a tool to protect businesses from sudden or unexpected customer insolvency.

Prahlad Singh Patel flags off the first ever Mobile Science Exhibition (SCIENCE EXPLORER) of NCSM in Leh for entire Ladakh Region

- The Union Minister of State for Culture and Tourism (Independent charge), Shri Prahlad Singh Patel flagged off the first ever Mobile Science Exhibition (SCIENCE EXPLORER) for the entire Ladakh Region in Leh.
- Chairman, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Shri Gyal P Wangyal; Culture Secretary, Shri Arun Goel; DG, ASI, Smt Usha Sharma; representative of National Council of Science Museums(NCSM); senior officers of Ministry of Culture and Officials of local administration were among those present on the occasion

Govt. launches campaign to promote ‘eat right movement’

- “It’s time for India to eat right,” said Health Minister Harsh Vardhan on Thursday, kick-starting POSHAN Maah 2019 with a year-long social and mass media campaign on the Eat Right India movement.

Govt allots Rs 7.87 cr for Khelo India athletes

- The Sports Ministry has sanctioned Rs 7.87 crore as out-of-pocket allowance for 2625 Khelo India athletes training in 99 Khelo India academies and other centres across the country. PTI PTI, New Delhi, Sep 28 2019, 16:55pm ist updated: Sep 28 2019, 17:21pm ist Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Youth Affairs and Sports, Kiren Rijiju.

MASCRADE 2019 organised by FICCI in Delhi

- ‘MASCRADE 2019’- Movement Against Smuggling and Counterfeit Trade scheduled’, an annual flagship FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry) event was held from 26-27 September 2019 in New Delhi.
- This year was the sixth edition of MASCRADE event which was organised by FICCI CASCADE (Committee Against Smuggling and Counterfeiting Activities Destroying the Economy). The theme for MASCRADE 2019 is ‘Containing Counterfeiting, Smuggling and Piracy: A Winning Strategy’.

World Wrestling Rankings: Deepak Punia New No. 1 In 86kg, Bajrang Punia Loses Top Spot In 65kg Category

- Deepak Punia, on the back of a silver medal in his World Wrestling Championships debut, has risen to the top of the rankings in the 86kg men’s freestyle category.
- He now sits four points above world champion Haszan Yazdani, who he was supposed to face in the final of the World Championships. Bajrang Punia, who secured bronze in

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the 65kg men's freestyle category in the Worlds, has dropped from the top spot in the rankings, with Gadzhimurad Rashidov overtaking him.

UNWTO selects India as host country to celebrate World Tourism Day 2019

- The World Tourism Day which observed globally on 27 September is hosted by a different country every year. India has been selected as the host country for celebration of World Tourism Day 2019 by United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). This is for the very first time that India will host the day in its National Capital, New Delhi.

Railways-Odisha govt to develop Bhubaneswar station as a multi-modal transport hub

- Under this MoU, Bhubaneswar station will be redeveloped as a multi-modal transport hub, jointly by the Ministry of Railways and Government of Odisha.
- The multi-modal hub is expected to be completed in three years. There will be new terminal building for Railway station, city bus terminal, public car parking and other allied public utilities. They will also jointly do land development and build air concourse connecting on both sides of the Railway station.

State Related Affairs

Andhra Pradesh gets India's longest electrified rail tunnel

- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated India's longest electrified rail tunnel. Situated between Cherlopalli and Rapuru stations of Andhra Pradesh, the 6.6-km long tunnel is a part of the Obulavaripalli-Venkatachalam railway line.
- The newly constructed tunnel will provide seamless rail connectivity between Krishnapatnam Port and the hinterland areas for freight movement.

GeM and Punjab Government inks MoU to set up Project Management Unit

- Government e-Marketplace (GeM) under Department of Commerce, Union Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Government of Punjab, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set up a GeM Organizational Transformation Team (GOTT) Project Management Unit (PMU) in the state.

Maharashtra CM approved Rs.1680 cr water supply scheme for Aurangabad

- The Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis has approved Rs.1680 crore to water supply scheme for Aurangabad town in the Marathwada region. Around 16lakh people of Aurangabad are going to be benefitted by this water supply scheme from the Jayakwadi dam.

Rajasthan launches 'Jan Soochna Portal'

- The state government of Rajasthan launched 'Jan Soochna Portal', a portal for quick access to information on government departments. The portal was launched by Rajasthan's Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and is a step of state government towards

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making Rajasthan a model state for good governance and accountability in administration.

Madhya Pradesh government offers cows for adoption online

- The state government of Madhya Pradesh is launching an online service for those wanting to adopt a cow and provide sheds to them at gaushalas (cow shelters) across the State. People can adopt a cow for a minimum period of 15 days and can go on supporting it till animal's lifetime. This initiative is part of Madhya Pradesh government's 'Project Gaushala'.

Gujarat Govt, Delaware State of America sign MoU for sister state

- Gujarat Government and Delaware State of America today signed MoU -Memorandum of Understanding for sister state. MoU was signed in Gandhinagar, when a delegation of Delaware State of America called on Gujarat Chief Minister Delaware's Vijay Rupani. MoU was signed by Gujarat Chief Minister and Delaware's Secretary of state.

Bihar State govt. bans Jeans, T shirts in its Secretariat

- On 30th August, the Bihar government has announced a ban on wearing jeans and T-shirts within the state secretariat. The officers and workers are asked to wear simple, soft and light-colored apparel in the workplace. The order was issued by the higher Secretary of the government, Mahadev Prasad.

Garvi Gujarat: 2nd state bhawan of Gujarat inaugurated by PM Modi

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 'Garvi Gujarat', the second state bhawan of the Gujarat government in the national capital New Delhi. During the inauguration PM Modi was accompanied by Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel and former chief minister Anandiben Patel, who currently serves as governor of Uttar Pradesh.

Nuakhai Juhar: Odisha's harvest festival celebrated

- Nuakhai Juhar, a harvest festival welcoming the newly harvest crop of the season was celebrated in Odisha. It is one of the most ancient festivals celebrated in Odisha to welcome new crop of the season. It is an important social festival of Western Odisha and is an agricultural festival.

Bathukamma-2019: The Telangana Flower Festival begins

- Bathukamma, the flower festival of Telangana, is being celebrated in state's Warangal district. The nine-day long festival of flowers will be celebrated from 29 September to 6 October 2019. Bathukamma marks the beginning of Sharath Routhu and it is widely celebrated by young girls and women.

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About Bathukamma

- The 'Bathukammas' are basically the cone shaped flower stack, at street corners and temples in the city. Women and young girls dances around these Bathukammas to shower their offerings. These Bathukammas' are then later immerse in water.

West Bengal Government To Set Up Museum At Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar's House

- West Bengal government plans to set up a museum at the north Kolkata house of 19th century social reformer Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar where he had spent the last few years of his life.
- The museum will come up at Vidyasagar's residence at Badur Bagan area where pictures and models, chronicling his life from his birth place at Birsinghpur village in Paschim Medinipur district to the house in north Kolkata.

'Tikki Mausi' mascot: unveiled by Odisha govt. and UNICEF

- With an aim to spread awareness about nutrition of children and women, the Department of Women & Child Development and Mission Shakti, Government of Odisha, in collaboration with United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) unveiled a mascot named 'Tikki Mausi'. The state government initiative highlights that Women and children are central to any welfare programme.

Assam Government launches Aponar Apon Ghar, Abhinandan

- The Assam Government launched twin schemes — the Aponar Apon Ghar Scheme, a home loan subsidy scheme, and the Abhinandan – Education Loan Subsidy scheme. Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had in his State Budget speech earlier this year announced the launch of the Aponar Apon Ghar Scheme.

5th International Ramayan Festival organized in New Delhi

- The 5th International Ramayan Festival organized by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) is being held from 17-19 September 2019 in New Delhi. The maiden day of festival was presided by Union Minister for Home Affairs Amit Shah as Chief Guest.

Hyderabad-Karnataka region Renamed 'Kalyana Karnataka'

- After completing the official procedure for renaming Hyderabad Karnataka region Chief Minister of Karnataka B.S. Yediyurappa made the official proclamation to rename the region as Kalyana Karnataka. The Hyderabad Karnataka region comprises six north-eastern districts of Karnataka: Bidar, Kalaburagi, Koppal, Ballari, Yadgir and Raichur.

Andhra Pradesh State to ban the private practice by govt. doctors

- The Andhra Pradesh State government has announced that it is to ban the private practice by doctors working in government hospitals. The announcement was made by

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Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy after consulting with the committee on reforms in the health sector.

- Also, as compensation, the govt. has announced to increase their salaries in accordance with the recommendations made by the experts committee on reforms in the health sector headed by former Union Health Secretary K. Sujatha Rao. The committee members have been asked to prepare proposals for an increase in doctors' salaries.

Traditional Neermahal Jal Utsav concludes in Tripura

- In Tripura, the three day long traditional Neermahal Jal Utsav concluded with eye catching boat race and swimming competitions at Rudrasagar lake.
- Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb flagged off the boat race. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Deb said, his government has taken initiative to renovate Neermahal so as to get back the aura of its golden era.

Pune's iconic Jayakar Bungalow restored

- The renovated Jayakar Bungalow, a classic heritage site situated inside the premises of National Film Archives of India (NFAI) in Pune, Maharashtra was inaugurated by Prakash Javadekar, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting.

TN officials to learn highway safety skills from Australia

- The Tamil Nadu government has sent a group of senior administrators to Australia for highway safety using Safe System Solution and to emulate the best practice procedures with a workshop. It will start on 16th Sept 2019 in Melbourne.

Mukhya Mantri Seva Sankalp Helpline '1100' launched in Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur has launched Mukhya Mantri Seva Sankalp Helpline '1100' (Chief Minister's Service Resolution Helpline) for speedy and time-bound redressal of public grievances using modern technology. By calling this helpline common citizens of state will be able to resolve their complaints and problems.

Tata Power Renewable commissions 150 MW solar capacity in Rajasthan

- Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd (TPREL) has commissioned a 150 MW solar capacity in Pokharan, Rajasthan.
- With the commissioning of this solar capacity, TPREL, a subsidiary of Tata Power, has increased its renewable capacity to 2,628 MW, inching closer to its target of generating 40 per cent of its total generation from clean energy sources.

Plastic ban: Andhra Pradesh to impose green tax

- Cracking the whip on pollutants, the Andhra Pradesh government decided to impose a green tax besides banning single-use plastic. To keep a check on pollution by industrial houses, the state will collect the green tax.

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Water Conservation Campaign: Rajasthan first to be awarded for water use practices

- Rajasthan has become the first state to be awarded for water conservation and efficient use practices by the National Water Mission of the Government of India under Category Two–Promotion of citizen and state action for water conservation, augmentation and preservation–of awards. The award given out by the Jal Shakti ministry is in line with the larger government campaign for water conservation and its supply to every household in the country.

Kerala CM launches capacity development programme for women entrepreneurs

- Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan launched the Kerala edition of WING-Women Rise Together, an initiative by Startup India, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) for capacity development of women entrepreneurs in the country at the second edition of Huddle Kerala 2019.

Karnataka Bank chief becomes Indian Banks' Association committee member

- Mahabaleshwara MS, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Karnataka Bank, has been inducted to the managing committee of Indian Banks' Association (IBA). This was announced during the annual general meeting of IBA in Mumbai.

TN to punish people who defaces roadside trees

- Tamil Nadu State government has announced penalty and imprisonment on defacing trees on the roadside. The state mentioned it as anti-nature to hit nails on trees.
- Defacing the tree including putting up many metal rods and electric wires on trees for decoration. This reduces the lifetime of a tree. To avoid this the State has introduced this move.

Kerala govt inks MoU with Maldives on cancer care

- Kerala on September 16 inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Maldives to strengthen cancer care in the island nation.
- The MOU was signed between Maldivian Minister Abdulla Ameen and Kerala Health Minister K K Shylaja in the presence of the state Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.

Delhi Police launches 'Tatpar' app for citizens

- In order to provide safety and a convenient online mode on 24×7 basis to its citizen, Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal launched newly-integrated one-touch mobile app 'Tatpar'. Among those present at the event were Delhi Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik, Ministry of Electronics and IT Secretary Ajay Prakash Sawhney and several other senior police officers.

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Telangana to celebrate 2020 as Year of Artificial Intelligence

- The Telangana government decided to celebrate the year of 2020 as the Year of Artificial Intelligence. The backdrop of the emerging talent pool and renewed focus by industry and other ecosystem players on this space in the last four to five years.
- The Nasscom announced the setting up of a Centre of Excellence in AI and Data Sciences in Hyderabad. In addition, IIT-Kharagpur (IIT-KGP) selected Hyderabad as the place to set up their regional centre to train students in AI in partnership with the State government.

International Affairs

Qatar unveils 2022 FIFA World Cup logo round the globe

- Qatar unveiled the logo for the 2022 World Cup. It will be hosted by the Gulf emirate displaying it in public spaces in Doha and cities around the world. The design is a stylised Arabic white unisex shawl with maroon patterning. It is displayed in a figure-of-eight symbolising infinity while creating a heart shape above the words FIFA WORLD CUP Qatar 2022

8th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable (AMER8) held in Abu Dhabi

- United Arab Emirates hosted the 8th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable (AMER8) on 10 September 2019, alongside the 24th World Energy Congress (which will be held from 9-12 September 2019) in Abu Dhabi, UAE. India is the co-host along with UAE at the AMER8 event.

7th RCEP Ministerial Meeting commence in Bangkok from 8-10 September

- The 7th Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) ministerial meeting of 10 members of ASEAN countries and their six FTA (free trade agreement) partners is being held in Bangkok, Thailand from 8-10 September 2019.

24th World Energy Congress held in Abu Dhabi

- The 24th World Energy Congress was held in Abu Dhabi, at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 9-12 September 2019. It was held under the patronage of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of UAE.

Glasgow confirmed as host venue for COP26 climate summit

- The UK has won the bid to host the 26th Conference of the Parties, known as COP26, following a partnership with Italy. Up to 30,000 delegates are expected to attend the event at Glasgow's Scottish Events Campus (SEC) at the end of next year.

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Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities held at Geneva

- The UN Committee on Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in its 22nd Session took up India's initial Country Report for consideration at UNHRC in Geneva.
- India is a signatory of the United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). In November 2015, India submitted its First Country Report on Status of Disability in India which was ratified in pursuance of Article 35 of the Convention.

UAE's Hazzaa AlMansoori becomes 1st Arab astronaut to reach space

- The UAE's Hazzaa AlMansoori has become the first Arab astronaut to reach the International Space Station (ISS). Hazzaa was a part of the UAE's armed forces and had worked as a military pilot. A Soyuz rocket blasted off on Wednesday from the Baikonur space centre in Kazakhstan, carrying Hazzaa along with American astronaut Jessica Meir and Russian astronaut Oleg Skripochka.

Chinese navy launches its first amphibious assault ship

- China has launched its first amphibious assault ship, which would enable ground forces to carry out attacks on enemy territory from sea. The ship was launched in Shanghai, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

Canberra becomes first Australian city to legalise marijuana

- The Australian capital of Canberra has become the first city in the country to legalise, possessing and growing marijuana for personal use. People aged 18 or above will be allowed to possess 50 grams of marijuana and grow two plants. Marijuana plants will have to be grown somewhere not accessible to the public or be accessible to children.

Russia to conduct 2019 Exercise TSENTR

- Exercise TSENTR 2019 is a component of the annual exercises part of the Russian Armed Forces like an annual coaching cycle. Exercise TSENTR 2019 is conducted by the Central military commission of Russia. This year the exercise is planned to be held between 9-23 September at Donguz coaching ranges in Russia.

Samuel Eto'o announces retirement from football

- Former Barcelona, Inter Milan and Chelsea striker Samuel Eto'o has announced his retirement from football at the age of 38. The Cameroon forward, who made his debut in 1997, scored more than 350 goals across his club career, winning the Champions League twice with Barcelona and once with Inter.

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23 September: 89th Saudi National Day 2019 celebrated

- Every year 23 September is observed as Saudi National Day as a day to commemorate the name changing of what was previously known as the Kingdom of Nejd and Hejaz to Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The day is now a public holiday in the Kingdom.

September 27: Google celebrates its 21st birthday

- Google celebrated its 21st birthday on September 27, 2019, with a doodle of a vintage computer and a Google homepage on it.
- Google was founded by PhD students Larry Page and Sergey Brin at Stanford University. They named its “Googol”. Googol is a mathematical term and it equals to 10 raised to the power of 100.

UK returns ‘stolen’ 12th century Buddha statue 57 years later

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman handed over antique 12th century Bronze Idol of Buddha that was stolen from Archaeological Survey of India’s (ASI) Nalanda site museum in 1961 to Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism (IC) Prahlad Singh Patel in New Delhi.

Russia holds Center-2019 International Command Exercise

- Russia is holding its annual Center-2019 International Command Exercise involving six other nations from 16 to 21 September 2019. Center-2019 is an annual strategic and operational military exercises which aren’t aimed at any third-party country rather focus on counterterrorist operations and is purely defensive in nature.

Sri Lanka unveils South Asia’s tallest tower in Colombo

- Sri Lanka unveiled a 350-metre-tall Lotus Tower which is now being dubbed as South Asia’s tallest tower in Colombo city. Though the tower is still under construction President of Sri Lanka Maithripala Sirisena decided to open the tower to public.
- As per the President, Lotus Tower is foreseen to be open the tower to public. As per the President, Lotus Tower is foreseen to be one of the significant landmarks and an epitome of island country’s culture, economy and development.

Foreign Relation

PM has begun his 3 day visit to Russia

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has begun his three-day trip to Russia on 3 September. PM Modi along with Russian President Vladimir Putin visited the Russian Zvezda shipbuilding complex. He is the first Indian prime minister to visit the Russian Far East Region.

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Fifteenth Indo-US military training exercise Yudh Abhyas 2019

- The 15th edition of the biggest joint military exercise Yudh Abhyas 2019 took place between Indian and the United States(US) at Lewis McChord Joint Airforce Base, Washington(US) continue till 18th September. The main objective is to facilitate interoperability between two nations and train at Battalion level as well as brigade level.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh meets his South Korean counterpart Jeong Kyeong-doo

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held talks with his South Korean counterpart Jeong Kyeongdoo, Minister of National Defence, on the second day of his 3-day visit to Republic of Korea (ROK) in Seoul. Indian Defence Minister is on a three-day visit to South Korea with an aim to intensify bilateral defence and security relations.

India hosts 6th India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue

- India is hosting 6th India-China Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED) in New Delhi. The three-day Dialogue will be held from 7-9 September 2019.
- Every year NITI Aayog (earlier Planning Commission) on Indian side and National Development and Reforms Commission (NDRC) on Chinese side lead SED Mechanism wherein a bilateral Dialogue is held annually alternately at capital cities of two countries i.e. in New Delhi and Beijing.

The 6th India China SED was held in New Delhi

- The 6th round of India-China strategic economic dialogue is being held in New Delhi. The three day event will be held on 7-9 September 2019. The dialogue will discuss various issues, including infrastructure, energy and pharmaceuticals.

Event:

- The dialogue includes events like round table meetings of joint working groups (JWG) on infrastructure, high-tech, energy, resource conservation, pharmaceuticals and policy coordination.

India and Russia target USD 30 billion in trade

- India and Russia have decided to step up industrial collaboration and make new technologies and investment partnerships, particularly in high tech areas. The collaboration aims to expand bilateral trade to \$30 billion by 2025. The decision was taken during the PM's 3-day visit to Russia.

India, Russia sign deal to overhaul, modernise Delhi-class warships

- In a boost for Indian Navy, the Defence Ministry signed contract with Russia for enhancing air defence capability of Delhi class warships of Indian Navy. The contract for modernisation of “Air Defence Complex Kashmir and Radar Fregat MAE” on P-15 (Delhi class) of ships was signed between the Ministry of Defence and JSC Rosoboronexport, Russian Federation.

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Indo-Thailand Joint Military Exercise Maitree-2019

- India and Thailand are all set to organize Joint Military Exercise MAITREE-2019 at Foreign Training Node, Umroi (Meghalaya) from 16-29 Sep 2019. Both the countries have already conducted two such military exercises in past one month.

Indian, Chinese soldiers engage in face-off briefly in Ladakh

- Tensions between Indian and Chinese border troops intensified once again as soldiers of India and China were engaged in a prolonged face-off near Pangong Tso lake in eastern Ladakh. The confrontation began on northern bank of 134-km-long Pangong Tso, two-thirds (nearly 66%) of which is controlled by China as it extends into Tibet.

President of India addresses India-Iceland Business Forum in Reykjavik

- President of India Ram Nath Kovind, addressed the India-Iceland Business Forum in Reykjavik, (capital of Iceland) on 11 September 2019. President Kovind is on a 3 day visit to Reykjavik, Iceland from 9-11 September 2019. This is part of President's three first leg visit to– Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia. This is also the first visit of an Indian President to Iceland since visit of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam in 2005.

India-Nepal petroleum products pipeline inaugurated

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepal counterpart KP Sharma Oli jointly inaugurated South Asia's first cross-border petroleum products pipeline from Motihari (in Bihar) in India to Amlekhgunj in Nepal through video conference.
- Both leaders also expressed confidence that bilateral relations between India and Nepal will continue to further deepen and expand across diverse sectors. Also regular exchanges at highest political levels have laid down a forward-looking agenda for expanding India-Nepal partnership.

India announces \$1 billion line of credit to resource-rich Russian Far East

- Sanctions on countries such as Russia also impacted other countries as well as the global economy, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday as he announced a \$1 billion line of credit for the less developed but resource rich Russian Far East.

28th India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol – 05-15 Sep 19

- 28th edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) between the Indian Navy (IN) and the Royal Thai Navy (RTN) is being conducted from 05 – 15 September 2019. Indian Naval (IN) Ship Kesari and His Majesty's Thailand Ship (HTMS) Kraburi along with Maritime Patrol Aircraft from both the navies are participating in the CORPAT.

India Pavilion inaugurated at 44th Toronto International Film Festival 2019

- India Pavilion was inaugurated at 44th Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2019 by High Commissioner of India to Canada Vikas Swarup on 6 September 2019. The

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Inauguration of India Pavilion at TIFF 2019 will provide a platform to showcase Indian Cinema in overseas market and facilitate new business opportunities.

Japan – India Defence Ministerial Meeting held in Tokyo

- Union Minister of Defence, Rajnath Singh co-chaired the Japan–India Defence Ministerial Meeting with Defence Minister of Japan Takeshi Iwaya in Tokyo, Japan.
- The dialogue discussed various issues of mutual concern which includes ways to further strengthen existing bilateral co-operative arrangements and adopt new initiatives towards achieving peace and security in region.

72nd session of WHO Regional Committee of South-East Asia inaugurated in New Delhi

- Union Minister of Health, Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the week-long 72nd session of World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Committee for South-East Asia (SEA) in New Delhi. This is the 2nd occasion that India is hosting Regional Committee meeting. Last meeting was also hosted by India in New Delhi.

Saudi Arabia to invest \$100 billion in India

- Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, is looking at investing \$100 billion in India in areas of petrochemicals, infrastructure and mining among others, considering the country's growth potential.

Petronet to invest \$2.5 billion in US company for LNG supply

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave a big push to securing India's energy interests when he met CEOs of 17 global energy companies in Houston and the two sides signed an MoU for Indian investment of \$ 2.5-billion LNG supply from the US for four decades.

India to invest Rs 230 crore in World Expo pavilion

- India will invest Rs 230 crore in constructing the India Pavilion at the World Expo 2020 in Dubai next year and plans to raise Rs 200 crore from participation charges, publicity and sponsorships. Investment would be in construction, curation, interiors, maintenance and security.

Arvind Kejriwal to attend C40 Summit in Denmark next month

- Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will attend the C40 Summit in Copenhagen, Denmark, next month and speak on his government's experience in lowering pollution, including the Odd-Even scheme.
- According to the statement, the Chief Minister will join leaders of several cities such as New York, London, Paris, Los Angeles and Berlin to deliberate on the climate crisis impacting the world at the summit from October 9-12.

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PM Modi arrives in New York for 74th UN General Assembly session

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived to participate in the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly after delivering an electrifying address in Houston to over 50,000 members of the Indian diaspora at a mega community event also addressed by President Donald Trump.
- Mr. Modi arrived at the J K International Airport a packed bilateral and multi-lateral agenda over the next five days including nine key speeches at high-level summits and plurilateral engagements during the UN General Assembly session and on its sidelines.

PM jointly unveiled the Buddha Statue in Mongolia

- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mongolian President H.E. Mr. Khaltmaagiin Battulga jointly unveiled a statue of Lord Buddha and his two disciples. The statue was installed at the historic Gandan Tegchenling Monastery in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

India to leverage its Strategic Energy Partnership with USA

- India and USA plan to further strengthen their Strategic Energy Partnership launched in New Delhi in It includes larger energy imports from the US by the world's third-largest oil importer state-run firms such as Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL).
- Petronet LNG Ltd may ink a deal with US liquefied natural gas (LNG) developer Tellurian Inc for around \$2 billion in the proposed Driftwood project in Louisiana.

Thailand, India sign trade agreements for Rs 2,400 crore

- Thailand and India have signed agreements for Rs 2,400 crore to boost trade ties between the two countries, Deputy Prime Minister of the southeast Asian country Jurin Laksanawisit said.

1st India, Singapore, Thailand Trilateral Naval Exercise begins

- The maiden Trilateral Naval exercise involving Indian Navy (IN), Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and Royal Thailand Navy (RTN) commenced at Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The five-day exercise will be held from 16 to 20 September 2019.

India, Slovenia sign seven MoUs to boost bilateral ties

- The President of India Ram Nath Kovind and his Slovenian counterpart Borut Pahor have agreed to strengthen multilateralism and promote multi-polar world. President Ram Nath Kovind reached Ljubljana, Slovenia in the final leg of his visit to – Iceland, Switzerland and Slovenia. Ram Nath Kovind's visit is the first-ever presidential visit from India to Slovenia.

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Second edition of Singapore India Hackathon to be held at IIT Madras

- Second edition of Singapore India Hackathon will be held at Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) Madras from September 28 to 29, Ministry of Human Resource Development said.

9th India-China Financial Dialogue held to strengthen cooperation

- 9th India-China Financial Dialogue was held in New Delhi. A high-level Chinese delegation led by Ms. Zou Jiayi, Vice Minister, Ministry of Finance, China interacted with the Indian delegation led by Atanu Chakraborty, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs on wide-ranging issues of mutual interest.

First India-Caribbean Summit – 2019

- Prime Minister Modi met the leaders of the Caribbean Community on 25th September, 2019, in New York. The meeting focused on fighting climate change and increasing India's participation in the grouping. At the meeting, PM Modi announced 14 million USD grant for community development projects in the region. He also extended 150 million USD of line of credit for renewable energy, solar and climate change related projects.
- Leaders and representatives of the Caribbean countries Guyana, Antigua and Barbuda, Tobago and Trinidad attended the meeting. Modi also invited the countries to join ISA (International Solar Alliance) and Coalition for Disaster Resilient infrastructure.

Maiden India, Singapore, Thailand Naval Exercise SITMEX-19 Begins in Port Blair

- The Navies of Singapore, India and Thailand began their first joint maritime exercise 'SITMEX-2019' in Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands on September 16, 2019.
- The Singapore's Navy (RSN), Royal Thailand Navy (RTN) and Indian Navy (IN) will conduct the five-day exercise till 20 September 2019.

Ranks

Mumbai most preferred city for co-living in India; ranks 5th among APAC's 20 cities

- Mumbai ranks 5th among 20 cities in Asia Pacific that can emerge as co-living destination, property consultant Knight Frank said.
- New Delhi at 11th rank and Bengaluru at 19th are the two other Indian cities in the list, according to Knight Frank's report 'Insights on Co-living: An Asia-Pacific Perspective.'

India ranks 34th in World Travel Tourism Competitiveness Index

- According to the reports, tourism in India is seeing an upward trend as India ranks 34th position on world travel and tourism competitiveness index. With this, India moves up six places up, and this has been driven by the rich natural and cultural resources, alongside strong price competitiveness.

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Mukesh Ambani tops the 2019 IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List

- The eighth IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2019 was released on 25 September 2019. Reliance Industries' Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List. He has topped for the eighth consecutive year, with a net worth of Rs 3,80,700 crore.
- The list reported that 953 individuals crossed the Rs.1,000 crore threshold to make the list. According to IIFL, the combined wealth of top 25 in the list equates to 10% of India's GDP and that of 953 accounts for 27%.

HDFC Bank emerges as India's most valuable brand

- Largest private sector lender HDFC Bank has emerged as the most valued Indian brand at USD 22.70 billion. The list of top ten brands, prepared by the world's largest media buyer WPP, includes companies from banking, financial services and insurance, telecom and auto segments.
- A brand's overall fortunes had a direct bearing on the brand valuations, as seen in the telecom space, where Airtel's value fell by 10 per cent to USD 10 billion, while Reliance Jio's value went up by 34 per cent to USD 5.47 billion.

Infosys, TCS, HDFC Among 17 Indian Firms In Forbes Best 'Regarded' Cos List

- As many as 17 Indian companies, including Infosys, TCS and HDFC, have been named in the list of World's Best Regarded Companies compiled by Forbes.
- IT major Infosys has been ranked third in the list of World's Best Regarded Companies, along with global payments technology company Visa and Italian car-maker Ferrari on the first and second position, respectively. Infosys jumped to the third spot from 31st position in 2018.

India slips to 104th spot in latest FIFA ranking

- The Indian team, coached by Igor Stimac, has been playing regularly since the 2019 Intercontinental Cup in July.
- Earlier this month, India held Asian champions Qatar to a goalless draw in Doha to gain its first point in the 2022 World Cup Qualifiers. The match was also a preliminary qualifier for the 2023 AFC Asian Cup.

India is the top source of immigrants across the globe

- India has emerged as the leading country of origin for immigrants across the world, with 17.5 million international migrants in 2019 coming from India, up from 15.9 million in 2015, according to a dataset released by the Union Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in New York.

Indian MFs: UAE tops in investments by non-residents

- Non-resident investments, led by the United Arab Emirates (UAE), in Indian mutual funds (MFs) at Rs 93,340 crore (\$ 13.5 billion) as of March 2019 substantially exceeded the investments made by MFs in the form of overseas equity investments at Rs 4,482

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crore (\$ 0.7 billion), the Reserve Bank of India has said. Non-resident investments (foreign liabilities) had risen by 8.95 per cent from Rs 85,670 crore in March 2018.

Business

‘Ashok Leyland’s heavy duty trucks becomes 1st to get BS-VI certification

- Commercial vehicle major Ashok Leyland announced that its entire range of heavy duty trucks has been upgraded to meet BS-VI emission norms, which come into force from 1 April 2020.
- With this upgradation the leading truck and bus maker Ashok Leyland has become 1st Indian original equipment manufacturer (OEM) to meet BS-VI emission norms across its entire range of heavy duty trucks (gross vehicle weight of 16.2 tonne and above).

Nissan CEO Saikawa resigns

- Nissan Motor CEO Hiroto Saikawa has resigned his position. His resignation after an internal investigation that revealed falsified documents that boosted his compensation in 2013. The change increased his compensation by about 96.5 million yen (roughly \$900,000 at that time), based on current foreign exchange rates.

Mahindra & Mahindra to acquire 55% stake in Meru Cabs

- Automotive major Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd., will acquire up to 55% stake in radio taxi firm Meru Cabs, by a fresh issue of shares worth up to ₹103 crore, it said in an exchange filing.
- The investment by M&M will significantly dilute the stake of its largest shareholder-private equity firm True North, which will reduce its stake from about 80% to 35%, said Vishal Nevatia, managing partner, True North, in a telephonic interview.

Hindustan Zinc receives its first European patent

- It has received its first European patent. The patent was developed by ZnTech + , formerly Central Research and Development Laboratory(CRDL), Hindustan Zinc.
- “The patent describes the process to treat Antimony-bearing by-product of Zinc-Lead smelters and convert it into a value added product, Potassium Antimony Tartarate (PAT),” an official statement said.

Tata Group to invest ₹300 crore to set up Indian Institute of Skills

- The ministry of skills development and entrepreneurship has joined hands with Tata Group to set up an Indian Institute of Skills (IIS) in Mumbai, in which the latter will invest around ₹300 crore.
- Inspired by Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), the IIS will be developed on a public-private-partnership (PPP) model, with the land coming from the government and capital from the Tata Group.

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Blackstone to buy rest of Indiabulls' stake in office assets for \$616 mn

- Alternative investment firm Blackstone Group Inc has agreed to acquire the 50% stake it didn't already own in Indiabulls Real Estate Ltd's office assets for Rs 4,420 crore (\$616 million).
- Mumbai-listed Indiabulls Real Estate said in a stock-exchange filing that the stake sale is part of its efforts to achieve zero net debt in the current financial year.

Duracell Set to Buy Eveready Industries' Battery and Flashlight Business: Report

- US-based Duracell Inc. is set to buy Eveready Industries' battery and flashlight business in a slump sale for Rs 1,600-1,700 crore, according to a report by the Economic Times.
- The deal between Duracell, owned by Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway, and BM Khaitan's flagship firm Eveready is reportedly in the final stage of negotiation and is expected to be announced soon.

Unilever achieves 100% renewable electricity use target across five continents

- Global consumer goods firm Unilever said it has achieved 100% renewable electricity usage at its offices, factories and other facilities across five continents in line with its target to become a carbon neutral company by 2030.

Wipro Infrastructure and BEML sign MoU

- Defence PSU BEML Ltd and Wipro Infrastructure Engineering (WIN) have signed an MoU to work together in the areas of aerospace, industrial automation, 3-D printing, artificial intelligence and hydraulic system engineering.

Defence News

Indian Army Team Summit Mt. Leo Pargyil

- An Indian Army team successfully summited Mount Leo Pargyil at 6773m on 20 August 2019. The expedition team hoisted National Flag atop Mt Leo Pargyil after an extremely challenging climb in harsh weather.

SLINEX 2019: India and Sri Lanka conducts Joint Naval Exercise

- The 'SLINEX 2019', the bilateral maritime exercise between India and Sri Lanka commenced on 7 September 2019 and will go on till September 14th.
- Sri Lankan Navy has sent two offshore patrol vessels SLNS Sindurala and SLNS Suranimala to India to participate in seventh annual Joint Indo-Lanka Maritime Fleet Exercise- SLINEX 2019. The offshore patrol vessels, SLNS Sindurala and Suranimala left from Trincomalee Port (of Sri Lanka) for India and arrived.

IAF inaugurates Vijaynagar's Advance Landing Ground in Arunachal Pradesh

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) inaugurated the resurfaced runway at the Vijaynagar Advance Landing Ground (ALG) in Changlang District in Arunachal Pradesh. which

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will enable operations by military transport aircraft at the base near the China border. This has also re-established military transport aircraft connectivity at this Eastern most hamlet of India.

ISRO, DRDO signs MoUs to provide technologies for Human Space Mission

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) signed Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to provide technologies for development of human centric systems for Human Space Mission to demonstrate its human space flight capabilities.

‘Astra’ air-to-air missile successfully flight tested from Su-30 MKI

- Indian Air Force (IAF) and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested indigenous air-to-air missile, ‘ASTRA’, off the coast of Odisha. The beyond-visual-range missile was launched from Su-30 MKI as a part of User trials.

Rustom-2: DRDO’s UAV crashes in Karnataka’s Chitradurga

- An Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) called ‘Rustom-2’ belonging to Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) crashed during a trial in an agriculture field in Chitradurga district of Karnataka. No casualties were reported from the crash. According to state government officials, the testing of ‘Rustom-2 UAV was in progress when the incident occurred.

DRDO hands over New-Generation Wargaming Software to Navy

- The Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) handed over a New-Generation Wargaming Software developed by New Delhi-based Institute for System Studies and Analysis (ISSA) to the Indian Navy. ISSA is a premier DRDO laboratory.

AUMX: 1st ASEAN-US Maritime Exercise begins

- The first ASEAN-US Maritime Exercise (AUMX) between regional bloc- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and United States kicked off at the Sattahip Naval Base in Thailand. The five day naval exercise is co-led by the navies of US and Thailand.
- It will stretch into international waters in Southeast Asia, including Gulf of Thailand and South China Sea and conclude in Singapore.

India to receive first Rafale fighter jet in September

- The first Rafale fighter jet will be handed over to India in September, French President Emmanuel Macron said in Paris during the course of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to his country. Modi is currently on a three-nation tour and landed in France.

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DRDO flight tests Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), the government agency charged with the military's research and development, successfully flight tested indigenously developed low weight, fire and forget Man Portable Antitank Guided Missile (MPATGM) in ranges of Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh (AP).

100 Days of Civil Aviation Ministry: India's tallest air traffic control tower inaugurated

- The tallest Air Traffic Control tower was inaugurated in India earlier this month at the Indira Gandhi International Airport. The tower will ensure up-to-date services and systems for efficient, smooth and uninterrupted air traffic management.

HimVijay exercise: to be organised by IAF on Chinese border in October

- The exercise has been codenamed 'HimVijay' is schedule to be carried out in October 2019 in Arunachal Pradesh, close to borders with China. In these upcoming war games, the Indian Armed Forces plans to deploy their latest American weapons systems such as M777 ultra-light howitzers and Chinook heavy-lift helicopters.

IAF Commanders Conference was held in New Delhi

- The Western Air Command, Commanders Conference was held in 5 and 6 September 2019 at New Delhi. The conference was chaired by Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa. The conference discussed the importance and pivotal role of this crucial Air Force unit in all future conflicts and aid to civil power.

KAZIND-2019: Indo-Kazakhstan Joint Military Exercise to be held in Uttarakhand

- A joint military exercise between India and Kazakhstan named KAZIND-2019 is scheduled to be held in Pithoragarh district, Uttarkhand from 3-15 October 2019. The exercise focuses mainly on counter terrorism operation.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launches Navy's first new stealth frigate, INS 'Nilgiri'

- Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh said, the Government is making concerted efforts to modernise the Navy and equip it with the best platforms, weapons and sensors to deal with any conventional and unconventional threats to India's maritime interests.
- Shri Rajnath Singh was speaking at the launch of INS 'Nilgiri', the first of the Navy's seven new stealth frigates, at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited in Mumbai.

Science and Technology

Chandrayaan 2 completed 2 successive deorbiting maneuvers for the Moon landing

- India's Chandrayaan-2 effectively finished two successive de-orbiting maneuvers. The second de-orbiting maneuver was successfully completed on 4 September. It is now all set to land on the moon anytime on September 7.

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- The next activity is the separation of the Vikram lander from the orbiter to setup lander arrival in the south polar area of the moon.

ISRO and SpaceIL to exchange notes on the lunar mission

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced that it is to exchange notes with Israel's private space center, SpaceIL. In February 2019, Israel SpaceIL's Beresheet mission lost robotic lunar lander in a manner similar to Chandrayaan-2's lander Vikram.

Astronomer discovered that K2 18b has earth like temperatures

- For the first time ever the NASA astronomers have discovered water in the atmosphere of a planet named K2-18b. The researcher said that the planet has earth-like temperatures which can support life.

Astronomers 13-Billion-Year-Old Protocluster Galaxy Discovered

- Astronomers have discovered a 13-billion-year-old galaxy cluster that is the earliest ever observed. The early-stage cluster called a protocluster is not easy to find Yuichi Harikane, a researcher at the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan who led the international team. A protocluster is a rare and special system with an extremely high density.

One tea bag can release 11.6 billion microplastics into your cup

- Love to start your mornings with a refreshing cup of tea? Beware, you might be drinking microplastics, all thanks to the premium plastic teabags, according to a new study.
- The study, by researchers from McGill University in Montreal, showed that a single plastic teabag can release harmful particles into your cup — 11.6 billion microplastics and 3.1 billion nanoplastics.

ISRO to prioritize Gaganyaan mission

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chief K Sivan has announced that the Chandrayaan-2 mission has achieved 98% of its objectives. Despite tracing the location of the lander Vikram, communication could not be established. The Space Agency confirmed that the lander is intact as a single-piece and not broken into pieces.

NASA to pay USD 4.6 bn to buy 6 spacecraft for Artemis moon missions

- NASA has partnered and contracted American global aerospace company Lockheed Martin to develop minimum six and as many as 12 spacecraft for its Artemis lunar exploration programme.

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CCMB scientist Thangaraj bagged J C Bose Fellowship

- K Thangaraj who is the Chief scientist at the Centre for Cellular and biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad has bagged the celebrated J C Satyendra N. Bose Fellowship Award. He was awarded for his outstanding scientific contributions within the field of population and medical genetics.

Sports

Name	Title name	Extra Information
Yashaswini Deswal	Shooting World Cup – Gold	Yashaswini Singh Deswal secured India's ninth Olympic quota in style
Tejinderpal Singh	Czech Republic – Silver	Asian Games gold medallist shotputter Tejinderpal Singh Toor clinched a silver medal with a best throw of 20.09m in his last attempt during an athletic meet at Decin, Czech Republic.
Kenyas Kosgei	2019 Great North Run	kenya's Brigid Kosgei won the women's half-marathon event in 2019 Great North Run in Newcastle, England.
Rashid Khan	becomes younger ever captain in Test cricket history	The leg spinner Khan is currently captaining Afghanistan in the one-off Test against Bangladesh.
Bianca Andreescu	US Open 2019	Teenager Bianca Andreescu stunned Serena Williams in a gripping US Open final to claim a first Grand Slam title
Bangladesh Krida Shiksha Prothishtan (BKSP)	U17 Girls Subroto Cup International Football title	Bangladesh Krida Shiksha Prothishtan (BKSP) defeated Nilmani English School, Manipur with 4-0
Rafael Nadal	US Open 2019 19th Grand Slam title	Rafael Nadal won his 19th Grand Slam title after holding off Russian Daniil Medvedev's exhilarating fightback in one of the greatest US Open finals.
Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)	Murugappa Gold Cup	Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) emerge champion in the 93rd All-India MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup hockey tournament by defeating Punjab National Bank (PNB)
Lakshya Sen	Belgian International badminton title	Rising Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen stunned second seed Victor Svendsen of Denmark in

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		straight games to clinch the men's singles title.
Sourabh Verma	Vietnam Open title	India's Sourabh Verma registered a thrilling three-game win over China's Sun Fei Xiang to claim the men's singles title
Kaushal Dharmamer	Myanmar International Series	Indian shuttler Kaushal Dharmamer clinched the Myanmar International Series title
Pankaj Advani	IBSF World Billiards Championship	The Bengaluru-based cueist Pankaj Advani increased his tally of world titles to 22 by winning a 4th straight final
Spain	FIBA basketball World Cup title	Spain captured its second FIBA basketball World Cup title after defeating Argentina with 95-75 in the gold medal
Mayank Vaid	becomes first Indian to complete Enduroman triathlon	It is a triathlon from England to France which is considered to be one of the toughest endurance competitions in the world.
Vinesh Phogat b	became the first Indian wrestler to seal an Olympics berth	India's star wrestler Vinesh Phogat won a bronze medal in the 53kg class at the ongoing World Wrestling Championships in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan and securing a Tokyo Olympics quota.
Bajrang Punia, Ravi Kumar	Bronze - World Wrestling Championships 2019	Bajrang Punia now has 3 World Championships medals, including podium finishes in successive editions.
Tsonga Triumph	Moselle Open	Jo-Wilfried Tsonga became the first man to claim four titles at the Moselle Open in Metz.
Carolina Marin And Kento Momota	China Open 2019	According to reports, It was a stellar event at the China Open with Carolina Marin and top seed Kento Momota claiming honours at BWF China open.
India	5 gold medals at ISSF World Cup	Ace shooters Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary defeated their Indian opponents Yashaswini Deswal and Abhishek Verma to claim the gold in 10m air pistol mixed team event.

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Manipur	25th Senior Women's National Football Championship	The Manipur women football team brought laurels to their state and the Northeast by winning the 25th Senior Women's National Football Championship 2019 at Pasighat.
Pankaj Advani-Aditya Mehta	World Team Snooker title	The Indian duo of Pankaj Advani and Aditya Mehta overcame a tough Thai team to emerge world champions in the IBSF World Snooker Team event.
Lewis Hamilton	Russian Grand Prix	Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton snatched victory in the Russian Grand Prix in a surprise Mercedes one-two after Ferrari argued over team orders and were undone by a virtual safety car.
Indian Junior Boys	Bronze Medal in Serbia Table Tennis Open	Indian team paired with Netherland to win the bronze medal
India	SAFF Under-18 football Championship	India won the SAFF Under-18 football Championship by defeating Bangladesh by 2-1 in final held in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Obituary

Name	Associated Field
LaShawn Daniels	Grammy- Award-winning songwriter/ producer
BN Yugandhar	Microsoft chief executive officer (CEO) Satya Nadella's father , 1962 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer.
Kiran Nagarkar	Sahitya Akademi Award-winning writer
Robert Mugabe	Zimbabwe's strongman ex-president
Abdul Qadir	Former Pakistan legspinner
Ram Jethmalani	Veteran Lawyer And Former Union Minister
Cokie Roberts	US political journalist
Sathar	Veteran Malayalam actor
Ben Ali	Tunisia's ousted ex-president
Fernando Ricksen	Former Dutch football player
Madhav Apte	Former India Cricketer
Meheraboon Rashib Gourabian	owner of the iconic Britannia and Co.
Jacques Chirac	former French president
Viju Khote	Film and theatre actor in bollywood

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Important Days

Day	Date	Theme
Rashtriya Poshan Maah	September month	
World Coconut Day	September 02	
Teachers day	September 05	
International Day of Charity	September 05	
International Literacy Day	September 08	Literacy and Multilingualism
World Suicide Prevention Day	September 10	Working Together to Prevent Suicide
International Day for South South Cooperation	September 12	From Commitment to Action
Hindi Divas	September 14	
International Day of Democracy	September 15	Participation
World Ozone Day	September 16	32 years and Healing
World Patient Safety Day	September 17	
World Water Monitoring Day	September 18	
International Day of Peace	September 21	Climate Action for Peace
International Day of Sign Languages	September 23	Sign Language Rights for All
International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons	September 26	
World Maritime Day (WMD)	Last Thursday of September	
World Tourism Day	September 27	
World Rabies Day	September 28	
Access to Information Day	September 28	
World Heart Day	September 29	
International translation day	September 30	Translation and indigenous languages