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CLAT coaching by NLU grads

National

PM Modi Unveils World's Tallest Statue Measuring 600feet In Gujarat

- i. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's memorial on the leader's 143rd birth anniversary in Gujarat's Narmada district.
- ii. Called the Statue of Unity, the bronze sculpture is the world's tallest statue measuring 600 feet (182m) and overshadows China's Spring Temple Buddha (153m) and USA's Statue of Liberty (93m). The memorial was constructed in 33 months at Rs2,989 crore.

All You Need To Know About 'Train 18'- India's 1st Engineless Train

- i India's first engine-less train, "Train 18", developed by the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) and seen as a successor to the prestigious Shatabdi Express, was unveiled by Railway Board Chairman Ashwani Lohani.
- ii. The Rs. 100-crore train is the first long-distance train, without a separate locomotive (engine). It was flagged off at the ICF premises by Mr Lohani and would undergo trials.
- iii. According to ICF, the train is capable of running at a speed of up to 160 kmph and comes with technical features for enhanced quick acceleration.
- iv. The swanky 16-coach train will cut journey time by 15% compared to the 30-year old Shatabdi.

Cabinet Approves Renaming Of Jharsuguda Airport, Odisha As “Veer Surendra Sai Airport, Jharsuguda”

- i. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the renaming of Jharsuguda Airport, Odisha as “Veer Surendra Sai Airport, Jharsuguda”. Veer Surendra Sai is a well-known freedom fighter of Odisha.
- ii. Renaming of the Jharsuguda airport in his name will fulfill the long-pending demand of the Odisha Government, which reflects the sentiments of the local public of the respective area. It will also be a befitting tribute to the contribution of the revered personality associated with the State.

Ease of Doing Business Index 2019: India Ranks 77th, New Zealand Tops

- i. India jumped 23 positions in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index 2019 and is now ranked 77 out of 190 countries in 2018, a development that could help the country attract more foreign investments.
- ii. According to the Doing Business Report (DBR, 2019), New Zealand topped the list, followed by Singapore, Denmark, and Hong Kong. India has become the top-ranked country in South Asia for the first time and third among the BRICS.

Important Takeways from above news-

- The President of the World Bank is Jim Yong Kim.
- The World Bank Headquarters in Washington, D.C., United States.

Reliance receives India's 1st LC Payment via Blockchain

- i. In a first for India, HSBC Holdings Plc has executed a trade finance transaction using blockchain for an export by Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) to US-based Tricon Energy. The block chain-enabled letter of credit (LC) transaction substantially reduced the time taken for such deals.

ii. The use of blockchain offers significant potential to reduce the timelines involved in the exchange of export documentation from the extant 7-10 days to less than a day.

First-ever India-US Dialogue On Intellectual Property Begins

i. The first ever **India-US Dialogue on Intellectual Property** has been launched in **Delhi** to deepen bilateral strategic cooperation on IP policy.

ii. The dialogue was launched by **US Chamber of Commerce's Global Innovation Policy Centre (GIPC) and FICCI** in partnership with the US-India Business Council. It will be convened annually, alternating between New Delhi and Washington, DC.

Kirloskar Group Gets RBI Nod For NBFC Biz

i. **The Kirloskar group** had announced that it has **received** licence **from the Reserve Bank to launch a non-banking finance company (NBFC), Kirloskar Capital**, which will be headed by industry veteran **Vimal Bhandari**.

ii. The group company will invest Rs 1,000 crore in the proposed NBFC, which will be a fully-owned subsidiary of Kirloskar Oil Engines, and will focus on providing growth capital to industry with an initial focus on small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

Shakti : India's First Indigenous Microprocessor Created By IIT-Madras

i. The Indian Institute of Technology Madras has designed and booted up '**Shakti**', which can be used for **wireless and networking systems**, as well as **mobile computing**. 'Shakti' is India's first and indigenous microprocessor. **Bluespec**, an open-source high-level synthesis language was used in making the chips.

ii. The concept to design the chip was germinated in 2011 and some preliminary works were carried out. In 2017, the project gained speed with about **Rs 11 crore** funding from the Indian government.

Delhi CM Inaugurates Signature Bridge

i. **Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal** inaugurated **Delhi's Signature Bridge**, the first asymmetrical cable-stayed bridge in India.

ii. The bridge was constructed by the Delhi Tourism and Transport Development Corporation (DTTDC) **at an expenditure of Rs 1,518.37 crore. The 675-metre bridge** aims to reduce travel time and traffic congestion between the north-eastern and northern parts of Delhi.

India re-elected as member of ITU council till 2022

i. **India** has been elected as a member of the **International Telecommunications Union-ITU Council** for another four-year term from **2019 to 2022**. The elections to the Council were held during the ongoing **ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 at Dubai**.

ii. India secured **165 votes** and ranked third among the 13 countries elected to the council from the Asia-Australasia region, and eighth among the 48 countries elected to the council globally. The **ITU has 193 member states** who elect representatives to the Council.

IFFI to commence in Goa from November 20

i. **The 49th International Film Festival of India, IFFI 2018** will be held in **Goa** from **20th to 28th of November**. The festival will showcase **212 films** from over **68 countries** which reflects the diversity of taste. International Competition section has 15 films out of which three are Indian.

ii. **The Feature Film Jury** of thirteen members was headed by acclaimed film director and screenwriter, **Rahul Rawail**.

Malayalam film Olu will be the opening film at the Film Festival. While in the Non-Feature film category Marathi film **Kharvas** directed by Aditya Suhas Jambhale will be the opening film.

Lucknow Stadium Renamed After Atal Bihari Vajpayee

- i.** The newly-built **Ekana International Stadium of Lucknow** was renamed after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The stadium will now be known as '**Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee International Cricket Stadium**'.
- ii** The stadium was renamed just ahead of the first-ever international cricket match - the T20 International between India and West Indies. T

“Notes of a Dream: The Authorized Biography of A.R. Rahman” By Krishna Trilok Launched

- i.** Oscar-winning musician **A.R. Rahman**, whose biography *Notes of a Dream: The Authorized Biography of A.R. Rahman* was launched in Mumbai says the book has been a journey for him and took him to those corners of his life which have remained candid for a long time.
- ii.** Written by author Krishna Trilok, the biography in association with Landmark and Penguin Random House was launched in Mumbai.

India's Unemployment Rate Jumps to 2-Year High of 6.9%: Report

- i.** Unemployment rate in the country rose to **6.9% in October**, the highest in two years, according to a report by the **Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE)**. The estimated number of people employed during October 2018 was 397 million.
- ii.** This was **2.4% lower than the rate in October 2017**. Around 407 million individuals were estimated to be employed during the same period in 2017. Only 39.5% of the adult population was employed in October 2018.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Santosh Kumar Gangwar is the present Minister of State of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Ayodhya Deepotsav 2018 Enters Guinness Book of World Records

- i.** **Ayodhya Deepostav 2018**, an event organised to mark Diwali celebrations in Ayodhya town - has entered **Guinness Book of World Records**.
- ii.** A Guinness certificate was issued to UP government's tourism department and Dr Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Avadh University, Faizabad, when over three lakh clay lamps were illuminated at Ram Ki Paidi on Chhoti Diwali as part of Deepotsava.
- iii.** Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had also announced that **Faizabad district will now be known as Ayodhya**.

CCEA approves disinvestment of 100% Govt stake in Dredging Corporation of India

- i.** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved **100% strategic disinvestment of the government's equity in the Dredging Corporation of India Ltd**. Presently, the government of India holds 73.44% shares in Dredging Corporation of India Limited.
- ii.** **Union Cabinet** gave its approval to **Amendment to the Central Universities Act, 2009** for setting up of **Central Tribal University in Andhra Pradesh**.

iii. Cabinet also approved leasing out six airports, namely Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for operation, management, and development under Public Private Partnership.

Book On Mouth Cancer 'Arivu' Released

i. **November 7** is observed as **National Cancer Awareness Day** in India each year.

ii. **Dr Murali Mohan Chuntharu**, a Dental Surgeon and also DK Home Guard Commandant has written a book named "Arivu", which explains about Mouth Cancer and prevention of the disease.

PM Modi Inaugurates Projects Worth Over Rs 2,400 crore in Varanasi

i. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** dedicated to the nation several projects including two **National Highways and an Inland Waterways Terminal on River Ganga at Varanasi** in Uttar Pradesh.

ii. The **total cost of these projects is 2413 crore rupees**. The Prime Minister also received the **country's first container cargo transported on inland waterways from Kolkata**.

iii. Mr Modi inaugurated an **Inland Multi-Modal Terminal Port constructed at the cost of 207 crore rupees** on river Ganga at Ramnagar in Varanasi. This is the first of the four Multi-Modal Terminals being constructed on National Waterways-I on River Ganga as part of the World Bank-aided Jal Marg Vikas project of the Inland Waterways Authority of India.

Mansi Gulati's Book 'Yoga And Mindfulness' Launched

i. Famous yoga exponent and author, **Mansi Gulati's** book, '**Yoga and Mindfulness**'.

ii. The book was launched by the Vice President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Conference Hall, Vice President's House, New Delhi.

Bangalore Ranked India's Most Congested City: NBER

i. **Bangalore tops the index for the most congested city**, and Mumbai in the second position, while Pune follows in the seventh place, according to a recent research published under the US-based organization, **National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)**.

ii. Conducted by a team of researchers at the University of California, Berkeley and three other U.S. universities, the research studies the current status of mobility in urban India, using Google maps.

iii. In another index of traffic speed, **Kolkata has been found to be the slowest city**, while Pune manages to hold down its position to the 20th place.

Satyarup Siddhanta Became 1st Indian To Climb Mt Giluwe

i. Indian mountaineer **Satyarup Siddhanta** became the first Indian to climb **Mt Giluwe**, the second highest mountain in **Papua New Guinea**.

ii. Satyarup reached the summit of the mountain which is at an elevation of **4,367 metres**. Satya now has scaled 5 of the 7 volcanic summits.

ISRO Launches GSAT-29 Communication Satellite From Andhra Pradesh

i. **GSAT-29 communication satellite**, which is being carried by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-Mk III) was launched into space from the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota**.

ii. The satellite aims at solving the communication barriers faced by **Village Resource Centres (VRCs)**, which are responsible for providing space-based services to ISRO from rural areas.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **ISRO Chairman:** K Sivan, **Headquarters:** Bengaluru, **Founder:** Vikram Sarabhai, **Founded:** 15 August 1969.

38th India International Trade Fair Begins in New Delhi

i. **The 38th India International Trade Fair (IITF)** has begun at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. The 14-day annual event will continue till 27th of November. This year the theme of the fair is *'Rural Enterprises in India'*.

ii. **Afghanistan is the Partner Country**, while Nepal will be the Focus Country. **Jharkhand is participating as a Partner State in the event.**

UP Cabinet Approves Renaming Of Faizabad As Ayodhya, Allahabad As Prayagraj

i. The Uttar Pradesh government has approved renaming of **Faizabad and Allahabad divisions as Ayodhya and Prayagraj respectively**. The decision was taken at a meeting of the state cabinet presided over by Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath**.

ii. Earlier, the government renamed the **Mughalsarai Railway station**, another historic spot, as **Deen Dayal Upadhyaya junction**.

Government To Issue Rs 75 Coin To Mark 75th Anniversary of Tricolour Hoisting

i. The government will release a **Rs 75 coin to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose hoisting the Tricolour** for the first time at Port Blair.

ii. **On December 30, 1943, Bose raised the Indian National Army (INA)** to fight against the British, had hoisted the Tricolour for the first time at Cellular Jail, Port Blair.

iii. Salient features of the coin:

1. **Weight: 35 grams.**
2. **Composition: 50% silver, 40% copper, and 5% each of nickel and zinc.**
3. **Portrait of 'Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose' saluting the flag on the background of Cellular Jail in Port Blair.**

India To Top U.S. As 2nd-Largest Carbon Spewer From Power: IEA Report

i. **The International Energy Agency** in its latest report **'World Energy Outlook'** stated that **India will overtake the U.S.** to become the **world's second-biggest emitter of carbon dioxide from the power sector before 2030.**

ii. Carbon dioxide emissions from India's power sector are expected to rise nearly 80% by 2040 as power use almost triples, driven in part by air conditioning. **China will remain the biggest emitter.**

Important Takeways from above news-

- International Energy Agency was established in 1974.
- It headquarters in Paris, France.

Cyclone 'Gaja' Hits Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

i. **The cyclonic storm 'Gaja'** over the Bay of Bengal lay at about 470 km southeast from Chennai and is set to make landfall between Cuddalore and Pamban bringing heavy rainfall to **Tamil Nadu.**

ii. It will also cover some parts of **Puducherry**. Earlier it has hit the **South Coastal part of Andhra Pradesh**.

NITI Aayog Constitutes Himalayan State Regional Council

i. **NITI Aayog** has constituted the '**Himalayan State Regional Council**' to ensure sustainable development of the Indian Himalayan region.

ii. The Council has been constituted to review and implement identified action points based on the Reports of five Working Groups, which were established along thematic areas to prepare a roadmap for action.

iii. The Himalayan State Regional Council will be **chaired by the Dr. VK Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog**.

India International Cherry Blossom Festival Held in Meghalaya

i. **The third edition of the India International Cherry Blossom Festival 2018** was held in Shillong. It was inaugurated by the Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma in the presence of Japanese Ambassador to India, Kenji Hiramatsu.

ii. The four-day long festival is being organized by the Forest and Environment Department, Govt of Meghalaya, Institute of Bio-resources and Sustainable Development in collaboration with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Tathagata Roy is the present Governor of Meghalaya.

PM Modi inaugurates Kundli-Manesar Palwal Western Peripheral Expressway

i. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the **Kundli-Manesar section of the Western Peripheral Expressway**. He also inaugurated the 3.2-kilometer long Escorts Mujesar-Ballabgarh corridor of the Delhi Metro. Mr. Modi also laid the foundation stone for **Vishwakarma Kaushal Vishwa Vidyalaya**.

ii. The Western Peripheral Expressway also known as **KMP expressway** is expected to divert more than 50 thousand heavy vehicles away from Delhi. The 136-kilometer long six-lane expressway has been built at a cost of **over 6400 crore rupees**.

Winter session of Parliament to start from December 11

i. **The Winter session of Lok Sabha** will commence on 11th of December. Lok Sabha Secretariat said in a statement said that the Session will conclude on 8th January next year.

ii. Earlier, Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs chaired by Home Minister Rajnath Singh had recommended convening the Winter session of Parliament from 11th of December till the 8th of January.

Myntra, Jabong To Merge; A Narayanan Will Continue As CEO

i. **Online fashion retailer Myntra** will integrate its **sister firm Jabong** with itself and the integrated firm will continue to be led by **Myntra CEO Ananth Narayanan**. The two will, however, continue to operate as separate brands.

ii. Flipkart had acquired Myntra in 2014 and Myntra had acquired Jabong in 2016. The company said since Myntra's purchase of Jabong, the two brands have been steadily integrating key business functions and streamlining processes.

Indo-Japan Business Council's Business Festival Held In Pune

- i. Indo-Japan Business Council's Business Festival** recently held in **Pune**. The Indo-Japan Business Council (IJBC), hosted **KONNICHI WA PUNE** - a first of its kind business festival in Pune.
- ii.** The festival was aimed to boost investment, promote businesses and cultural exchange between India and Japan.

India's First Elephant Hospital Opens In Mathura

- i. India's first specialized hospital for elephants** has been opened by **Agra Divisional Commissioner Anil Kumar** at Farah block's Churmura village, **Mathura**.
- ii.** The hospital is designed **to treat injured, sick or geriatric elephants** and is equipped with a medical hoist for lifting elephants, as also an elephant restraining device with a dedicated indoor treatment enclosure for long duration medical procedures.

49th India International Film Festival Begins in Goa

- i. The 49th edition of the International Film Festival of India** opened with the gala opening ceremony at the **Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in Goa**. The 9-day event will showcase 212 films from 68 countries. **Chaitanya Prasad is the Director of Festival**.
- ii. While Israel is the focus country, Jharkhand is the focus state this year.** Ten Israeli films including **The Other Story** will be screened at the IFFI. **Veteran Israeli filmmaker Dan Wolman** will be given the Lifetime Achievement Award this year.

West Bengal Passes Bill To Give Land Rights To Enclave Dwellers

- i. The West Bengal Assembly** unanimously passed a **Bill to give land rights to enclave dwellers in north Bengal**, ending an era of uncertain future for the people residing in those enclaves.
- ii.** Bangladesh and India had exchanged a total of 162 enclaves on Aug 1, 2015, ending one of the world's most-complex border disputes that had lingered for seven decades since Independence.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **West Bengal CM: Mamta Bannerjee, Governor: Keshari Nath Tripathi.**

Andhra Pradesh Launches 'Bhudaar' Portal

- i. Andhra Pradesh** has launched a web portal which makes land records available to people with unique identification numbers.
- ii.** The **"Bhudaar"** is an **11-digit unique identification code** assigned to each agriculture land holding and rural and urban properties in the state. Two types of Bhudaar cards are available including **e-Bhudaar** and **M-Bhudaar**.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Andhra Pradesh CM: N. Chandrababu Naidu, Governor: E. S. L. Narasimhan**

India's First Justice City To Set Up In Andhra Pradesh

- i. Andhra Pradesh** is building a world-class and **India's first 'Justice City'** within its new capital **Amaravati** with the vision to provide a state-of-the-art ecosystem built on latest technology for supporting the judicial system in the state.

ii. Justice City will provide the necessary infrastructure to provide speedy justice for litigants, easy and better access to justice for the masses and reduce pending cases.

ICC Team Up With Google

i. The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** announced its **partnership with Google** to offer the fans a great viewing experience of the upcoming semi-finals and final of the ICC Women's World T20 to be held in West Indies.

ii. The collaboration includes enabling the casting of video content from the ICC mobile app on cast-

Important Takeways from above news-

- **ICC Chairperson:** Shashank Manohar, **Headquarters:** Dubai, United Arab Emirates, **CEO:** Dave Richardson.

7th International Tourism Mart Inaugurated in Agartala

i. The **Governor of Tripura Prof. Kaptan Singh Solanki** inaugurated the '**7th International Tourism Mart for the North-East States** in the presence of Minister of State (I/C) for Tourism K.J Alphans and the **Chief Minister of Tripura Biplab Kumar Deb in Agartala, Tripura.**

ii. The Ministry of Tourism has organized the mart in association with the Department of Tourism, Government of Tripura and the North Eastern States. The International Tourism Marts are organized every year in the North Eastern States on rotation basis.

India To Host 50th Union World Conference On Lung Health In 2019

i. The **50th Union World Conference on Lung Health** will be held in **Hyderabad**, a global organisation working in this field announced.

ii. The conference '**Ending the Emergency: Science, Leadership, Action**' which will start in **October 2019**, the **International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease** stated.

UN Selects Noida, Greater Noida to Participate In Global Sustainable Cities 2025 Initiative

i. The United Nations has selected **Uttar Pradesh's Noida and Greater Noida** to participate in its **Global Sustainable Cities 2025 initiative**. According to UN, the twin-cities in Gautam Buddh Nagar district, adjoining the national capital, have been selected in the "**University City**" category ahead of Mumbai and Bengaluru as the only invitee from India.

India To Lay Foundation Stone For Kartarpur Corridor Route

i. Vice President **M Venkiah Naidu** laid the foundation stone of the **Dera Baba Nanak Kartarpur Sahib corridor** for Gurudwara **Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan**.

ii. The groundbreaking ceremony was held at village Mann of district Gurdaspur near Indo Pak border. Punjab Governor **VP Singh Badnore** was the guest of honour.

Jitendra Singh Releases Book 'Radio Kashmir-In Times of Peace & War' By Rajesh Bhat

i. **Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (I/C) Dr Jitendra Singh** released a book titled '**Radio Kashmir-In Times of Peace & War**' written by **Dr Rajesh Bhat**.

ii. The author **Dr Rajesh Bhat** is currently posted in the Policy Division of Directorate General, All India Radio, New Delhi.

Malaria Cases Declined By 24% In India: WHO Report

- i. **The World Health Organisation (WHO)** in a report stated that India is the only country to have recorded a substantial decline in malaria cases in 2017 out of the 11 highest burden countries worldwide.
- ii. **India registered a 24% reduction in cases over 2016**, largely due to substantial declines of the disease in the highly malarious state of Odisha, home to approximately 40 percent of all malaria cases in the country. According to the report, India accounted for 4% of global malaria cases in 2017.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** is the present Director-General of WHO.
- WHO Headquarters in **Geneva, Switzerland**.

India Skills Report 2019: Andhra Tops in Employability Rate, Talent Quality

- i. **Andhra Pradesh has topped** the list of states with the highest employability **followed by Rajasthan and Haryana**, as per the **India Skills Report 2019**. The employability levels of B.Tech/B.E have increased across all the sectors, touching a new high of 63.11%, which remained at 42.08 last year.
- ii. However, the employability levels of MBA and polytechnic stand low between 47.18% and 45.90%. The survey was conducted jointly by Wheebox, PeopleStrong, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Important Takeways from above news-

- Santosh Kumar Gangwar is the Minister of State (I/C) of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Dehradun Airport To Be Renamed After Atal Bihari Vajpayee

- i. The **Uttarakhand government** has decided to rename the **Dehradun airport** after former prime minister **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**.
- ii. The proposal to rename the Jolly Grant airport after Atal Bihari Vajpayee was approved by the state cabinet at a meeting chaired by Chief Minister **Trivendra Singh Rawat**.

FM Arun Jaitley Released the book "Making of New India"

- i. The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, received the first copy of the book "**Making of New India: Transformation under Modi Government**", from **Shri Arun Jaitley**, Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs. Shri Jaitley formally released it at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- ii. This book is **edited by Dr. Bibek Debroy, Dr. Anirban Ganguly** and Shri **Kishore Desai** and contains 51 essays on themes ranging from economy to diplomacy, education to public health.

PM Modi To Attend G-20 Summit In Argentina

- i. **G-20 Summit 2018** held at **Buenos Aires, Argentina**. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will attend the summit. According to the Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale, there will be three sessions during the summit and Mr. Modi will attend several bilateral meetings on the sideline of the summit.
- ii. He will also attend a trilateral meeting with **U.S. President Donald Trump** and **Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe**. The Prime Minister will be speaking on several welfare schemes including **Ayushman Bharat, soil health card, MUDRA Yojna** among other issues in Putting People First session.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **G20 2019: Osaka, Japan**.

Government To Sell 100% Stake In Air India's Ground Handling Subsidiary

- i. The government has approved **100 percent stake sale** in state-owned airline Air India's ground-handling company **Air India Air Transport Services Limited (AIATSL)**. The approval comes at a time when the government is working on ways to revive the fortunes of Air India — estimated to have the debt burden of more than **Rs 500 billion**, including the sale of non-core assets.

ii. AIATSL is Air India's only profitable subsidiary. In 2016-17, it clocked a profit of over **Rs 334 million**, earning Rs 6.2 billion in revenues from its handling operations.

Himachal Pradesh First State To Launch Single Emergency Number '112'

i. **Himachal Pradesh** has become first Indian state to launch a single emergency number "**112**". This will connect to **police, fire, health and other helplines** through an Emergency Response Centre in the state.

ii. Under this project, an **Emergency Response Centre (ERC)** has been established in Shimla along with 12 district command centres (DCCs), covering the entire state. Union Home Ministry statement stated that Ensuring safety of women, '**SHOUT**' feature has been introduced in '**112 India**' mobile app to seek immediate assistance from registered volunteers.



Seychelles Launches World's 1st Sovereign Blue Bond

i. The **Republic of Seychelles** launched the **world's first Sovereign Blue Bond**, a financial instrument designed to support sustainable marine and fisheries projects.

ii. The bond raised USD 15 million from international investors. The bond demonstrates the potential for countries to harness capital markets for financing the sustainable use of marine resources.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Seychelles Capital:** Victoria, **Currency:** Seychellois rupee.

1st WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health Held in Geneva

i. The **First WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health** took place at WHO headquarters in **Geneva, Switzerland**.

ii. The conference was organized in collaboration with UN Environment, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC), the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the World Bank and the Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Important Takeways from above news-

- **WHO Director-General:** Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.

India Pavilion Inaugurated At Videocittà 2018 In Rome Film Festival

i. Joint Secretary (Films), Ministry of I&B **Shri Ashok Kumar Parmar** inaugurated the **India Pavilion at Videocittà, 2018 in Rome Film Festival**.

ii. India was **partner country** at Videocittà 2018, an event focussing on Virtual Reality, Video gaming, Animation, Film Making, etc. was organized along with Rome Film Festival and the International Audio Visual Market.

33rd ASEAN Summit Begins In Singapore

i. The 33rd edition of the ASEAN Summit has begun in Singapore. Prime Minister of Singapore **Lee Hsien Loong** is the Chairman of the Summit, which will continue till 15th November along with other related summits like East Asia Summit (EAS), Regional Comprehensive Economic Summit, (RCEP) and ASEAN plus summits.

ii. Fintech Conference which is a part of **Fintech festival** will also take place alongside. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and IMF, Managing Director **Christine Lagarde** will also address the audience.

Important Takeways from above news-

- ASEAN stands for **Association of Southeast Asian Nations**.
- **Headquarters:** Jakarta, Indonesia.

Palau Becomes 1st Country In World To Ban Reef-Killing Sunscreen

i. Palau has become the **first country** to ban reef toxic sunscreen by 2020 in an attempt to protect its coral reefs after the president of the country signed a bill into law.

ii. Palau defines the banned "reef-toxic" sunscreens as containing any one of 10 chemicals, including oxybenzone and octinoxate, which are found in the vast majority of sunscreens sold in the U.S., according to the Consumer Healthcare Products Association.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Palau Capital:** Ngerulmud, **Currency:** United States Dollar

World's First AI News Anchor Debuts In China

i. **Xinhua**, China's state-run press agency, recently unveiled virtual newsreaders that combine the images and voices of human anchors with **artificial intelligence (AI)** technology.

ii. Xinhua unveiled two AI newsreaders, one that speaks in **English** and one in **Chinese**. Xinhua developed the robot anchor with Chinese search engine **Sogou.com**.

17th AEC Council Meeting Held in Singapore

i. The **17th ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council Meeting** was held in Singapore as part of the **33rd ASEAN Summit and Related Summit Meetings**. The blueprint seeks sustained and long-term growth for the ASEAN region.

ii. The meeting was attended by the ASEAN Economic Ministers and AEC Ministers. They signed the ASEAN Agreement on e-Commerce, Concluded the **ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA)** and Finalised the Fourth Protocol to Amend the **ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA)**.

PM Modi Addresses World's Largest Financial Technology Festival Fintech In Singapore

i. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** addressed the world's largest financial technology festival **Fintech in Singapore**. Addressing the gathering, Prime Minister stated Fintech is a celebration of belief in the spirit of innovation and power of technology.

ii. **Mr Modi is the first Head of Government to deliver his address at Singapore** in the event. About 30 thousand people attended the keynote address of Mr. Modi at this Festival.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Singapore President:** Halimah Yacob, **Currency:** Singapore dollar.

2-Day Annual Meeting of WEF Global Future Councils Held in Dubai

i. The two-day annual meeting of **World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Future Councils** was held in **Dubai, the UAE**.

ii. Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum attended the opening session. The gathering was addressed by **World Economic Forum President Borge Brende**.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **The UAE Capital:** Abu Dhabi, **Currency:** United Arab Emirates dirham.

PM Modi Attends 13th East Asia Summit in Singapore

i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the **13th East Asia Summit in Singapore**. The summit is a regional forum held annually by **leaders of 18 countries** in the East Asian, Southeast Asian and South Asian regions, including Russia and the United States.

ii. He presented awards to winners of first India-Singapore Hackathon. Mr. Modi attended the second Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Summit with 16 member states.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **The first East Asia Summit** was held in 2005.

World Tolerance Summit Inaugurated in Dubai

i. The two-day summit to mark the **World Tolerance Day** was **inaugurated in Dubai, the UAE**. Held for the first time in UAE, the theme of the Summit was **'Prospering from Pluralism: Embracing Diversity through Innovation and Collaboration'**.

ii. The World Tolerance Summit brings together government leaders, key figures from the public and private sectors, peacekeeping ambassadors and change-makers from across the world to discuss the importance of tolerance, peace and equality, and celebrate diversity.

Important Takeways from above news-

- 16th November has been declared as the **World's Tolerance Day** by the UNESCO.

NASA InSight Lands On Mars 7 Months After Launch

i. **NASA's InSight** spacecraft landed on Mars after nearly a **7 months**, 458-million-kilometre journey, and a 6.5-minute parachuted descent through the Red Planet's atmosphere.

ii. The **360-kg** lander also shared its first photo from Mars, showing an area called **Elysium Planitia**, where it will dig **five meters** below the surface. The **\$993-million** mission will measure the Mars' **internal heat and study quakes**.

Morocco Unveils Africa's First Ever High Speed Train Line

i. **French President Emmanuel Macron** and **Morocco's King Mohammed VI** have inaugurated **Morocco's first high-speed rail line**, the **first ever such line in Africa**. The **\$2 billion** project was launched in **September 2011** by the king and Nicolas Sarkozy, then president of France.

ii. Known as the LGV, it will connect the economic hubs of **Tangier and Casablanca** in 2 hours 10 minutes at a speed of up to **320 kph (199 mph)** instead of almost 5 hours on a regular train.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Morocco Capital:** Rabat, **Currency:** Moroccan dirham.

APEC Summit 2018 Held In Papua New Guinea

i. The **Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit** was held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinean capital.

ii. This is the first time Papua New Guinea (PNG), the poorest of the 21 countries in APEC, has hosted the summit.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Papua New Guinea Capital:** Port Moresby, **Currency:** Papua New Guinean kina.

Maldives Cabinet Approves To Rejoin Commonwealth

i. The **Maldives cabinet has approved to rejoin the Commonwealth**, two years after withdrawing from the 53-nation grouping. The announcement was made by **New President of Maldives Ibrahim Mohamed Solih**. Now, the proposal will be sent to Parliament for ratification.

ii. The country left the Commonwealth during former President Abdulla Yameen's administration in October 2016, amid mounting pressure over corruption and deteriorating human rights.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Maldives Capital:** Male, **Currency:** Maldivian rufiyaa.

World's Standard Definition of Kilogram, Second & Metre Redefined

i. The **26th meeting of the General Conference on Weights and Measures (CGPM)** was held at **Versailles(Paris), France**. The members have voted for the redefinition of 130 years old "**Le grand K – the SI unit of kg**" in terms of the fundamental **Planck's constant(h)**. The new definitions will come into force on **20 May 2019**.

ii. The definition of **the kilogram** has been changed from being the mass of prototype sanctioned by the **1st CGPM held in Paris in 1889** and deposited at the BIPM to the Planck constant which is a physical constant. Likewise, the definition of **meter** has been changed to link it to the speed of light. There is a change in the definition of **time** also.

Important Takeways from above news-

- The CGPM is the highest international body of the world for accurate and precise measurements.
- World Metrology Day - **20 May**.
- The CGPM meets in **Paris**, usually once every **four years**.

Saudi, UAE Announce USD 500 million in Aid to Yemen

i. **Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates**, which lead a military coalition against the Huthi rebels in Yemen, announced **USD 500 million** in aid to the country on the brink of famine. Saudi Arabia and the UAE will each give USD 250 million in response to the food crisis to support more than 10 million people.

ii. Saudi Arabia and the UAE intervened in the Yemen war in 2015 to bolster Yemeni President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi after the Huthis took over the capital Sanaa.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Yemen Capital:** Sana'a, **Currency:** Yemeni rial.

IMD World Talent Ranking: India Ranks 53rd, Switzerland Tops

- i. Switzerland has topped** the list of the **IMD World Talent Ranking 2018** for the fifth year in a row, followed by Denmark (2nd) and Norway (3rd).
- ii. Among the BRICS countries, South Africa remains in the middle position (50th) performing better than India (53rd) and Brazil (58th) but lagging behind China (39th) and Russia (46th).

Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayen in Fortune Business Person of The Year list

- i. Indian-American Shantanu Narayen, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Adobe,** has been named by **Fortune in its 2018 Business Person of the Year list.** The list ranks 20 business executives “delivering on the bottom line and beyond”.
- ii. Narayen ranks 12th on the list,** which has been **topped by CEO of insurance company Progressive Tricia Griffith.**

ConMac 2018 Starts in Kathmandu

- i. The Embassy of India in Nepal and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** organized an exhibition of construction equipment and technology-**ConMac 2018** in **Bhaktapur near Kathmandu, Nepal.**
- ii. Nepal's Minister for Physical Infrastructure and Transport Raghbir Mahaseth** will inaugurate the event. Ambassador of India to Nepal **Manjeev Singh Puri** will be the **Guest of Honour.**

12th World Congress on Mountain Medicine Held Kathmandu

- i. The 12th World Congress on Mountain Medicine** started in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. The theme of the 4-day congress is *“Mountain Medicine in the Heart of the Himalayas”*.
- ii. The flagship event of the International Society for Mountain Medicine (ISMM)** is being held first time in Nepal and hosted by **Mountain Medicine Society of Nepal (MMSN).**

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Nepal Capital:** Kathmandu, **Currency:** Nepalese rupee, **PM:** K P Oli.

Admiral Sunil Lanba On A Visit To Russia

- i. Admiral Sunil Lanba,** Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Indian Navy is on a visit to **Russia.** The visit aims to consolidate bilateral defence relations with Russia, as also to explore new avenues for defence cooperation.
- ii. The CNS will be commencing his official visit from St. Petersburg,** where he is scheduled to hold bilateral discussions with his counterpart, **Admiral Vladimir Korolev,** Commander-in-Chief, **Russian Federation Navy.**

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Russia Capital:** Moscow, **Currency:** Ruble, **President:** Vladimir Putin.

Maldivian Foreign Minister Reaches India on 4-day Visit

- i. Maldivian Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid** has arrived in **New Delhi** on a 4-day visit to India. This is the first high-level visit from Male after the new government took office.

ii. Mr. Shahid and **External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj** will hold extensive talks on issues of mutual interest.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Maldives Capital:** Male, **Currency:** Maldivian Rufiyaa.
- **Romania Capital:** Bucharest, **Currency:** Romanian Leu.

Ukraine Declares Martial Law After Russian Naval Attack

i. **Ukraine's parliament** has imposed **martial law** in the country to fight what its president called "**growing aggression**" from **Moscow** after a weekend naval confrontation off the disputed **Crimean Peninsula** in which Russia fired on and seized three Ukrainian vessels amid renewed tensions between the neighbors.

ii. Russia and Ukraine blamed each other in the dispute that further ratcheted up tensions ever since **Moscow annexed Crimea in 2014**. Ukrainian President **Petro Poroshenko** asked lawmakers in **Kiev** to institute martial law.



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Defence

India Signs \$950 Million Contract With Russia To Buy Two Stealth Frigates

i. **India has signed a \$950 million contract with Russia for two upgraded Krivak III-class stealth frigates.** A government-to-government contract was signed between India and United Shipbuilding Corporation of Russia last week for the supply of two stealth frigates.

ii. The **4,000-ton Krivak III** vessels will also accommodate two multirole helicopters and will be used for anti-submarine and airborne early warning missions.

Indian-Indonesian Navy Bilateral Exercise 'Samudra Shakti' Begins

- i. The inaugural edition of **Indian Navy -Indonesian Navy Bilateral Exercise ‘Samudra Shakti’** began at Surabaya, Indonesia.
- ii. The **Indian Naval Ship (INS) Rana** of the Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam under the Eastern Naval Command arrived at the port of Surabaya to participate in the exercise.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Admiral Sunil Lanba** is the present chief of Naval staff of Indian Navy.

INS Arihant Completes 1st Deterrence Patrol

- i. **INS Arihant, India's first nuclear ballistic missile submarine**, has completed its first "deterrence patrol".
- ii. **The 6,000-tonne INS Arihant**, under development for three decades under a highly classified programme, comes under the direct control of the Nuclear Command Authority headed by PM Modi.

India-Japan Military Exercise 'Dharma Guardian' Kick Starts In Mizoram

- i. **Armies of India and Japan** began their **first-ever joint military exercise 'Dharma Guardian- 2018'** at a jungle warfare school in Mizoram's Vairengte with a focus on strengthening counter-terror cooperation.
- ii. The focus of the two-week-long exercise will be to enhance tactical skills against global terrorism and increase interoperability between the two forces. The Japanese contingent is represented by 32nd Infantry Battalion, while the Indian side by 6/1 Gorkha Rifles.

Important Takeways from above news-

- General Bipin Rawat is the present Chief of Army Staff.

INS Viraat To Become A Floating Museum

- i. The Maharashtra Cabinet has approved the conversion of decommissioned carrier **INS Viraat** into a **floating museum**. As per primary estimates, the project worth **852 crore** rupees will be implemented through public-private-partnership (PPP).
- ii. The decision has been taken to elicit interest among the school and college students in the **marine sector**. Besides, it will make the new generation familiar with the glorious history of **INS Viraat**.

K9 Vajra And M777 Howitzer Guns Inducted Into Indian Army

- i. **Indian Army** inducted new artillery guns and equipment, including **K9 Vajra and M777 howitzers**, at Deolali artillery centre in **Nashik, Maharashtra**. The induction ceremony took place in the presence of **Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Army chief General Bipin Rawat**.
- ii. Besides, **M777 American Ultra Light Howitzers** and the **K-9 Vajra**, the third gun system inducted is the **‘Composite Gun Towing Vehicle’** for towing some of the existing guns in service with the country. **The guns have a range of 30 km.**

25th Edition of SIMBEX Begins in Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal

- i. **India and Singapore** have started the **25th edition of SIMBEX (Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise)** off **Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal**.
- ii. According to the Defence Ministry, **SIMBEX 2018** will be the **“largest since 1994 in terms of scale and complexity”**.

INDO-Russian Joint Exercise INDRA 2018 Held in Jhansi

- i. The joint military exercise **between India and Russia EXERCISE INDRA 2018** on combating insurgency under the aegis of United Nations (UN) was conducted **at Babina Military Station in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh.**
- ii. The aim of the exercise is to practice joint planning and conduct to enhance interoperability of the two Armies in the peacekeeping/enforcement environment under the aegis of the UN. This is the **tenth series of Exercise INDRA.**

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Russia Capital:** Moscow, **Currency:** Russian ruble.

Indo-US Joint Military Exercise 'Vajra Prahar' Commences In Jaipur

- i. The **12-day long joint military exercise** between **India and the United States** known as '**Vajra Prahar**' commenced in **Jaipur.**
- ii. A contingent of the United States Pacific Commander arrived at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges for undertaking Joint training with the Indian Special Forces.

India, Russia Finalize USD 500 million Deal for Construction of 2 Warships

- i. **India and Russia sealed a USD 500 million deal** for construction of two missile frigates in Goa for the Indian Navy, sending a clear signal of continuing with high-level defence collaborations notwithstanding the US warnings of sanctions.
- ii. The agreement for manufacturing of the **two Talvar-class warships** was signed between defence PSU Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL) and Russia's state-run defence major Rosoboron export under the government-to-government framework for defence cooperation.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Admiral Sunil Lanba is the present chief of Naval Staff of Indian Navy.

India-United Kingdom Exercise KONKAN-18 Held At Goa

- i. Naval exercise between **India and the United Kingdom, KONKAN** held in **Goa** this year. Both Navies have, over the years, undertaken bilateral activities such as training exchanges and technical cooperation. The Bilateral **KONKAN** exercise provides a platform for the two Navies to periodically exercise at sea and in harbour, so as to build interoperability and share best practices.
- ii. The **KONKAN** series of exercises commenced in **2004**, and since then has grown in scale. The Royal Navy will be represented by **HMS Dragon**, a Type 45 Class Destroyer equipped with an integral Wildcat helicopter.

ISRO Launches India's HysIS Satellite With 30 Foreign Satellites

- i. The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has successfully launched **PSLV-C43**. This launch took place from the first launch pad of the **Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.**
- ii. Marking the **45th** mission that uses the polar satellite launch vehicle (PSLV) rocket, ISRO launched its latest **Earth-mapping satellite, HysIS**, as part of the mission. The **HysIS** satellite adds a mass of **360kg** to the payload, and launched beside 30 other satellites from six nations.

Appointments or Resign/Retired

Anupam Kher Resigns As FTII Chairman

- i. Actor **Anupam Kher** has resigned as the chairman of the **Film and Television Institute of India** citing commitments to an **international TV show** for which he has to be stationed in the U.S.

ii. His resignation letter to **Information and Broadcasting** has been accepted by Minister **Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore**.

RBI Clears Re-Appointment of Aditya Puri as HDFC Bank CEO

i. **HDFC Bank** had announced that the **RBI had approved the re-appointment of Aditya Puri** as MD and CEO of the bank for another two years. Aditya Puri will now serve the office from November 1, 2018 to October 26, 2020.

ii. Puri has been with HDFC Bank since 1994, making him **the longest-serving head of any private bank in the country**.

Important Takeways from above news-

- HDFC Bank **Headquarters in Mumbai**.

Gafur Rakhimov Elected President of AIBA

i. **Uzbekistan's businessman Gafur Rakhimov** was elected **president of the International Boxing Association (AIBA)** despite fears that his appointment could lead to the sport's ejection from the Olympic Games.

ii. Rakhimov won 86 of the 134 second-round votes collected by AIBA officials in Moscow to beat his only opponent, former boxer Serik Konakbayev of Kazakhstan.

Important Takeways from above news-

- IOC President: Thomas Bach, Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland.

S. S. Deswal Appointed DG of ITBP

i. The ACC has approved the appointment of **S. S. Deswal, IPS as Director General, Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)**. He took charge from R K Pachnanda, the outgoing DG of ITBP, who superannuated recently.

ii. Mr Deswal will hold the **additional charge of the post of DG, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)** till further orders.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Indo-Tibetan Border Police was raised on October 24, 1962.

Ashok Kumar Gupta Appointed New CCI Chairperson

i. **Former IAS Officer Ashok Kumar Gupta** has been appointed as the **Chairman of the Competition Commission of India (CCI)**. His appointment has been approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

ii. Mr **Gupta has replaced Sudhir Mittal**. His tenure as the CCI Chairman will be till October 25, 2022, i.e. when attains the age of 65 years, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Competition Commission of India (CCI) has been established by the Central Government with effect from 14th October 2003.

Binny Bansal Resigns As CEO of Flipkart Group

i. **Co-founder Binny Bansal** has resigned as **CEO of Flipkart Group**. This was announced by Walmart, the new owner of the e-commerce company.

ii. **Kalyan Krishnamurthy** will continue to be CEO of Flipkart, which will now include Myntra and Jabong, continuing to operate as separate platforms within the Flipkart business.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **US-based Walmart** had completed its **\$16-billion acquisition of India's largest e-commerce firm Flipkart.**

Yes Bank Chairman Ashok Chawla Resigns

i. **Ashok Chawla, chairman of Yes Bank Ltd**, resigned with immediate effect from the lender's board after being named in a corruption charge sheet by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

ii. Mr. Ashok Chawla is the present Chairman of the Board of Directors of NSE and Mr. Vikram Limaye is the Managing Director and CEO of NSE.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Yes Bank Headquarters:** Mumbai, **CEO:** Rana Kapoor.

Ministers Sadananda Gowda and Narendra Singh Tomar Gets Additional Charge

i. After the demise of Union Minister Ananth Kumar, Union Minister **DV Sadananda Gowda has got the additional charge of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers** and **Narendra Singh Tomar was assigned the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.**

ii. Currently, DV Sadananda Gowda holds the portfolio of Statistics and Programme Implementation, while Narendra Singh is Minister of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Mines. Mr Ananth Kumar passed away recently due to multiple organ failure.

BIS Names Siddharth Tiwari as Chief Representative for Asia

i. **The Bank for International Settlements (BIS)** announced a new addition to its team, with Siddharth Tiwari joining as the Chief Representative for Asia and the Pacific.

ii. **He succeeds Eli Remolona**, who was the previous Chief Representative of the Asian Office who held this position from 2008 to 2018.

Government Appoints Sanjay Mishra As New Enforcement Directorate Chief

i. **Indian Revenue Service officer Sanjay Mishra** was appointed as the **new Enforcement Directorate Director (ED)** in an additional capacity for three months.

ii. **He has replaced Karnal Singh.** He has also been appointed as the Principal Special Director in the same agency.

UNICEF Appoints Athlete Hima Das As India's 1st Ever Youth Ambassador

i. **The United Nations Children's Fund-India (UNICEF)** has appointed Asian Games gold-medalist sprinter Hima Das as India's first ever Youth Ambassador.

ii. Recently, Hima clinched a Gold medal in Women's 4x400 metre relay event at the 2018 Asian Games at Jakarta, Indonesian. She also won Silver in the Women's 400m Race event with a clock timing of 50.59 seconds.

Important Takeways from above news-

- UNICEF India works along with the Central Government to ensure that children born in India get the best start in life, thrive and develop to his or her full potential.
- UNICEF headquarters in New York, the USA.

- Hima Das, nicknamed the 'Dhing Express', is an Indian sprint runner from the state of Assam.

Jalaj Srivastava Appointed New IWAI Chairman

i. **Jalaj Srivastava**, a 1984 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, has been appointed the **chairman of the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)**.

ii. The IWAI comes under the Union Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, currently headed by Nitin Gadkari. Srivastava is presently working as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture.

Important Takeways from above news-

- Srivastava is also the writer of a crime thriller novel titled 'The Perfect Suicide.'

UIDAI CEO Ajay Bhushan Pandey Appointed New Revenue Secretary

i. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet appointed **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) CEO Ajay Bhushan Pandey** as the new **revenue secretary**. He will succeed current Finance and Revenue Secretary Hasmukh Adhia.

ii. Mr Adhia is retiring on November 30. Mr Pandey will continue to hold the charge as the CEO of UIDAI and GSTN Chairman until further orders.

Oracle Veteran Thomas Kurian To Head Google Cloud

i. **Oracle's ex-product chief Thomas Kurian** will head **Google's cloud division**. He will replace **Diane Greene**.

ii. Kurian will join Google Cloud on November 26 and transition into the leadership role in early 2019.

UN Environment Chief Erik Solheim Resigns

i. The UN's **environment chief, Erik Solheim**, has **resigned** following severe criticism of his global travels and internal rule-breaking which led some nations to withhold their funding.

ii. The **former environment minister of Norway** had been at the helm of the **Nairobi-based UN Environment** since **June 2016**. Solheim's resignation comes ahead of crucial talks opening in Poland on December 2 on implementing the Paris climate deal.

Yes Bank Director R. Chandrashekhar Resigns

i. **R. Chandrashekhar**, an independent director at **Yes Bank Ltd** **resigned** saying he was concerned about recent events at the company.

ii. Notably, Yes Bank has been ordered by India's central bank to replace its chief executive officer, Rana Kapoor.

South Korean Kim Jong Yang Named New Interpol President

i. **South Korea's Kim Jong-yang** has been elected as **Interpol's next president**, edging out a longtime veteran of Russia's security services, **Alexander Prokopchuk**, who was strongly opposed by the US, Britain and other European nations.

ii. Prokopchuk is a general in the Russian interior ministry and serves as an **Interpol vice-president**. Interpol's 94 member states chose Kim at a meeting of their annual congress in **Dubai**. He will serve until **2020**.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Interpol Headquarters:** Lyon, France, **Motto:** "Connecting police for a safer world".

Millie Bobby Brown Named Youngest-Ever UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador

- i. The **United Nations children's agency UNICEF** appointed **Millie Bobby Brown**, the star of hit Netflix series "**Stranger Things**", as its youngest ever goodwill ambassador on Tuesday and the **14-year-old** had a message for world leaders: "**Listen to us.**"
- ii. The appointment – marked on **World Children's Day** at United Nations Headquarters and the Empire State Building in **New York** – makes the 14-year-old **UNICEF's youngest-ever Goodwill Ambassador.**

Important Takeways from above news-

- **UNICEF Headquarters:** New York, **UNICEF Executive Director:** Henrietta H. Fore

Voreqe Bainimarama Sworn in As Fiji's Prime Minister

- i. **Voreqe Bainimarama** has Sworn in as **Fiji's Prime Minister** for **four** more years after winning an election with a reduced majority.
- ii. Bainimarama first seized power in a military coup in **2006** and refashioned himself as a legitimate leader after winning an election in **2014.**

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Fiji Capital:** Suva, **Currency:** Fijian Dollar.

Ezetap's Abhijit Bose Appointed WhatsApp India Head

- i. **Facebook Inc.-owned messaging service WhatsApp** on it has **appointed Abhijit Bose as head of WhatsApp India**, the local entity that is expected to begin operations next year amid calls to check the spread of fake messages.
- ii. Bose, who was the co-founder and chief executive officer of enterprise payments solutions firm Ezetap, will be based in Gurugram, and join the messaging app in 2019.

Tanzania's Joyce Msuya Appointed Acting Executive Director of UNEP

- i. **Tanzanian national Joyce Msuya** was appointed as **acting Executive Director of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** following the resignation of the executive director Erik Solheim.
- ii. Solheim had quit in wake of internal audit report accused of rule-breaking UNEP.

UNICEF Appoints Singer Nahid Afrin As First 'Youth Advocate' of Northeastern Region

- i. **Popular singer Nahid Afrin** of Assam has been appointed as the first '**Youth Advocate**' of the northeastern region by the UNICEF to fight for child rights. The **UNICEF** engages 'Youth Advocates' to harness their voice as agents of change in society.
- ii. **UNICEF's India representative Yasmin Ali Haque** stated that **17-year-old Nahid** was appointed as 'Youth Advocate' in the North East at an event in Guwahati. Nahid has received the best female playback singer award at the **Assam state Film Award 2018.**

WhatsApp Business Head Neeraj Arora Resigns

- i. **WhatsApp's Chief Business Officer Neeraj Arora** has resigned from the post after 7-years in the company. His exit comes seven months after WhatsApp co-founder **Jan Koum** left the company. Arora had been an integral part of WhatsApp since **2011** and played a vital role in the company's **acquisition by Facebook in 2014.**

ii. Neeraj Arora was the front-runner for the post of the CEO at WhatsApp after the departure of Koum. Koum had quit over **data privacy concerns** in April 2018. The company recently appointed **Abhijit Bose** as India head.

Sunil Arora Appointed New Chief Election Commissioner of India

i. **Sunil Arora** has been appointed as the new **Chief Election Commissioner** of India. He succeeds **Om Prakash Rawat**. He will take over the top job on December 2. A former bureaucrat, Arora was appointed as Election Commissioner in August 2017.

ii. A 1980-batch IAS officer of the Rajasthan cadre, Arora has worked in ministries such as finance, textiles and the Planning Commission. **Ashok Lavasa (Georgian)** is the **second election commissioner**.

OYO Appoints Rohit Kapoor As CEO Of Real Estate Business

i. Hospitality startup **OYO** has appointed Max Healthcare Executive Director **Rohit Kapoor** as the **CEO** of its new **real estate business**. Rohit Kapoor stated that he is thrilled to join OYO's mission of upgrading different forms of real estate and creating unique accommodations experiences.

Arvind Saxena Appointed As UPSC Chairman

i. **Arvind Saxena** has been appointed as the new Chairman of **Union Public Service Commission**. UPSC is the institution responsible for conducting examination for selection bureaucrats, diplomats and police officers. Saxena will be serving in the office till **August 7, 2020**, when he attains the age of 65 years.

ii. Prior to this, he has been working as the acting head since June 20, 2018. He joined UPSC back in **May 2015**. Earlier, he has also worked as Director of the **Aviation Research Centre (ARC)**.

LG Appoints Brian Kwon As Mobile Business President

i. **LG Electronics** has announced that it has appointed **Brian Kwon** as the new **president**. He is replacing Hwang **Jeong-hwan** after one year.

ii. Brian Kwon is head of LG's **home entertainment business**, from December 1. It comes after LG's mobile business posted a loss of \$410 million this year, including a \$130.5 million net loss in the last quarter.

Honours/ Awards

Malala Yousafzai To Be Honoured Gleitsman Award by Harvard University

i. **Nobel Prize Winner Malala Yousafzai** will be honored by Harvard University for her work promoting girls' education. **Harvard's Kennedy School** stated that Yousafzai will be conferred with **the 2018 Gleitsman Award** at a ceremony on 6th December.

ii. Yousafzai is a student at **Oxford University** in England. The Gleitsman Award provides **125,000 US dollars** for activism that has **improved quality of life around the world**.

Important Takeaways from above news-

- Yousafzai became the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize in **2014**.

Anupam Kher Gets 'Distinguished Fellow' Award

i. **Veteran actor Anupam Kher** was honoured as a **'Distinguished Fellow'** by IndiaGlobal - a leading US think-tank that works on issues concerning non-resident Indians.

ii. The actor was given a fellowship at the **3rd IndiaGlobal Summit**. The event was held at the prestigious MIT Sloan School of Management in Boston and was facilitated by MIT Sloan India Business Club.

Arunima Sinha Gets Honorary Doctorate In The UK

i. **Arunima Sinha**, the Indian mountaineer who became the **world's first woman amputee to climb Mount Everest in 2013**, has been awarded an honorary doctorate by a prestigious UK university for her inspirational achievements.

ii. Ms Sinha, 30, was conferred with the honorary doctorate by the University of Strathclyde at a graduation ceremony in Glasgow.

Dr. Martha Farrell Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

i. Late **Dr. Martha Farrell** has been honoured with the **"Lifetime Achievement Award"** at the 6th **Indian Social Work Congress** in **New Delhi**.

ii. Dr. Farrell was recognized for her lifelong work towards **gender equality, women's empowerment and prevention of sexual harassment at workplace**. She was among 14 people killed in a terrorist attack on a guest house in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Jawahar Lal Sarin Conferred With France's Highest Civilian Honour

i. **Jawahar Lal Sarin**, president of the governing body of **Alliance Francaise**, was conferred with France's highest civilian honor by French Ambassador to India **Alexandre Ziegler** at an event.

ii. France's highest civilian honor **'Knight of the Legion of Honour'** was bestowed on Sarin in recognition of his outstanding contribution to **enhancing Indo-French cultural cooperation and promoting the French language**.

UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards 2018 Announced for Cultural Heritage Conservation

- i. The renewal of the early 20th-century '**Shijo-cho Ofune-hoko Float Machiya**' has received the **Award of Excellence in this year's UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation**.
- ii. Ten projects from five countries – Australia, China, India, Japan, and Thailand – have been recognized by an international Jury of conservation experts in this year's Awards.

Swati Chaturvedi Won Press Freedom Award For Courage In UK

- i. An Indian freelance journalist, famous for her investigative reports, has bagged the 2018 **London Press Freedom Award for Courage**. **Swati Chaturvedi**, author of the book '**I am a Troll: Inside the Secret World of the BJP's Digital Army**', beat shortlisted journalists from Italy, Turkey, and Morocco for her work in exposing the "**IT cell**" within the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for keeping an army of angry trolls.
- ii. The award was conferred on Swati at the first award ceremony organized by the UK chapter of Paris-based **Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF)** or **Reporters Without Borders** in **London**.

ATP World Tour Awards 2018 Announced: Complete List Of Winners

- i. The big three of men's tennis – **Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal** and **Roger Federer** – were all among the winners at the 2018 ATP World Tour Awards. The trio were named as award winners in the prelude to the season-ending ATP World Tour Finals **in London**.
- ii. Djokovic won the 'Comeback Player of the Year Award', voted by the ATP players, on the back of his glorious run during the second half of the season.

Dr Debabhuson Borah Gets Munin Barkotoki Literary Award

- i. The prestigious **Munin Barkotoki Literary Award 2018** in Assam has been given to **young writer-critic Dr Debabhuson Borah** for his book on literary criticism titled '**Nirbochon**'.
- ii. The Munin Barkotoki Memorial Trust announced the annual Award instituted to encourage young and promising writers in Assamese. The award carries a cash prize of Rs 50,000 along with a citation and a plaque.

Important Takeways from above news-

- The **Munin Barkotoki Literary Award** was named after the renowned writer, critic and journalist **Munin Barkotoki**.

Messi Won La Liga Player Of The Year Award For 6th Time

- i. Barcelona star **Lionel Messi** was named **La Liga Player of the Year for 6th time**, adding one more title to his abundant collection of soccer's great honours. Messi lifted the prestigious award at **FIFA's gala ceremony in Zurich**.
- ii. The late England player and manager **Bobby Robson** received **FIFA's fair play award**, while the presidential award for **contributions to football and society** went to Jordan's **Queen Rania**.

Veteran Journalist N Ram Received Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award

- i. Finance Minister **Arun Jaitley** inaugurated National Press Day (16 November) celebrations in New Delhi. The winners of National Awards for Excellence in Journalism were honored on the occasion.
- ii. **Eminent journalist and Chairman of the Hindu Publishing Group, N Ram** has been selected under prestigious award category of **Raja Ram Mohan Roy award**.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Press Council of India chairman: CK Prasad**.

Ustad Amjad Ali Khan Presented Lifetime Achievement Award In Delhi

- i. One of India's greatest **sarod masters**, **Ustad Amjad Ali Khan**, was presented the '*Sumitra Charat Ram Award for Lifetime Achievement*' at the Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi, for his "immense contribution to the enrichment and promotion of the Indian classical music".
- ii. The award was presented to him by former diplomat Lalit Mansingh. Best known for his clear and fast '**ekhara taans**', Khan was born in 1945 in Gwalior. He was awarded the **Padma Vibhushan (in 2001)** and is among the tallest Indian classical musicians.

Important Takeways from above news-

- The lifetime achievement award, named after Sumitra Charat Ram, the founder of the Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra, was instituted in 2010.
- Since 2010 the award has been given to Kishori Amonkar, Pandit Jasraj, Hariprasad Chaurasia and Girija Devi (in music) and Mayadhar Raut, Kumudini Lakhia, and Birju Maharaj (in dance).

Chennai Airport Awarded for 100% Grievance Redressal

- i. The Union Minister of Civil Aviation and Commerce & Industry, **Suresh Prabhu**, and Minister of State for Civil Aviation, **Jayant Sinha** has launched the upgraded version of **AirSewa 2.0 web portal** and **mobile app** in **New Delhi**.
- ii. The Ministry of Civil Aviation launched **AirSewa web portal** and **mobile app** in **November 2016** to address Air passengers' issues. Suresh Prabhu and Jayant Sinha also gave away the **champion award to Chennai airport** which saw **100% timely closure of grievances in one year**.

Shubhankar Sharma, 1st Indian to Win European Tour 'Rookie of the Year' Award

- i. **Young golfer Shubhankar Sharma** capped a dream season on the European Tour by becoming the **first Indian to win the tour's 'Sir Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year' award**.
- ii. The Chandigarh-based golfer thus joined previous Rookies of the Year, Spaniard Jon Rahm and Korean Jeunghun Wang, as well as former World No.1 Luke Donald of England, as the only players in the last 20 years to win twice in their first 20 events.

MAHE Wins International Green Apple Silver Award

- i. **Manipal Academy of Higher Education** won silver in the **International Green Apple Award for Environmental best practice 2018**. The award was received by Derrick I. Joshua, Assistant Director, Environment Sustainability, MAHE at a ceremony at the Houses of Parliament, London.
- ii. MAHE was selected for the award from 800 global nominations which competed to pick the greenest individuals, companies, councils and communities.

CSE Wins Indira Gandhi Peace Prize

- i. **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)** has won this year's **Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development**, an award conferred by Indira Gandhi Trust each year on the late Prime Minister's birth anniversary.
- ii. The international jury for the awards was headed by former President **Pranab Mukherjee**. The CSE was established in **1980** under the leadership of the late **Anil Agarwal** and is presently headed by **Sunita Narain**.

Amitabh Bachchan Receives Sayaji Ratna Award

- i.** Bollywood superstar **Amitabh Bachchan** was awarded the third **Sayaji Ratna Award**, established in the memory of erstwhile Baroda ruler **Sayajirao Gaekwad III**. Infosys co-founder **N R Narayana Murthy** and noted industrialist **Ratan Tata** have been given the award earlier.
- ii.** The **Baroda Management Association** had, in **2013**, instituted the award to mark the **150th** birth anniversary of the ruler, known for undertaking major social reform measures during his rule in the early twentieth century.

Prof SP Ganguly Awarded Mexican Order of Aztec Eagle

- i.** JNU's **Hispanic Studies professor Shyama Prasad Ganguly** has won **Mexico's highest civilian honor** "Orden Mexicana del Águila Azteca" (Mexican Order of the Aztec Eagle) accorded to foreign nationals.
- ii.** He was awarded for disseminating Spanish language and Mexican culture to strengthen Mexico-India cultural relations. He is the **first Indian Academician to get this award**.

India gets UN Environment Award For Combating Transboundary Environmental Crime

- i.** **United Nation Environment** has awarded **Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB)**, Ministry of **Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India** with **Asia Environment Enforcement Awards, 2018** for excellent work done by the Bureau in combating transboundary environmental crime.
- ii.** WCCB has been conferred this award in the Innovation category.

Azim Premji Conferred Forbes India Leadership Awards 2018

- i.** **Azim Premji**, chairman of **Wipro**, has won **Forbes India Leadership Awards 2018, Lifetime Achievement**. Wipro is India's fourth-biggest software services company by revenue and Ajim Premji is the second richest Indian.
- ii.** The **Forbes India Leadership Awards**, India's most prestigious honour for the top executives, was held in **Mumbai**. Forbes India honoured entrepreneurs and company bosses across nine categories, with an emphasis on excellence, innovation, and transformational leadership.

8th Forbes India Leadership Awards Announced: Complete List of Winners

The **8th Forbes India Leadership Awards (FILA)** was released in Mumbai. The award had 9 categories to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of CEOs, entrepreneurs and business leaders of diverse backgrounds. The Theme of the Award was- "**Celebrating Achievers and their remarkable journeys against all odds**". The winners and their categories are as follows:

Sl. No.	Category	Winner
1.	Lifetime Achievement Award	Azim Premji, Chairman, Wipro Limited
2.	Best Company	Public Sector award: Energy Efficiency Services Limited
3.	Best CEO—MNC	Sanjiv Mehta, HUL
4.	Best CEO—Private Sector	Rajeev Jain, Bajaj Finance
5.	Entrepreneur of the Year	Vivek Chaand Sehgal of Motherson Sumi
6.	Outstanding Start-up Award	R Narayan Founder and CEO, Power2SME

Azim Premji Conferred Highest French Civilian Honour

i. IT czar and philanthropist **Azim Premji** was bestowed with the **highest French civilian distinction Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour)**. Premji, who is the chairman of **Bengaluru-headquartered IT major Wipro**, received the distinction from the Ambassador of France to India **Alexandre Ziegler in Bengaluru**.

ii. The award was bestowed on Azim Premji for his outstanding contribution to **developing the information technology industry in India**, his economic outreach in France, and his laudable contribution to society as a philanthropist through the Azim Premji Foundation and **Azim Premji University**.

IFFI 2018: Donbass Wins The Golden Peacock

i. **Donbass** directed by **Sergei Loznitsa** has won the coveted **Golden Peacock Award** at the **49th International Film Festival of India (IFFI)**, which concluded in Goa on November 28, 2018.

ii. The Golden Peacock Award carries a cash prize of Rs 4 million (Rs 40 lakhs) to be shared equally between the Producer and the Director, Trophy and the citation.

Sports

Tata Steel Named Official Partner of FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2018

i. **Steel manufacturing giant Tata Steel** was announced as an **official partner of the men's hockey World Cup 2018** to be staged at the Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar from November 28 to December 16.

ii. Tata Steel, the 10th-largest steel producer in the world, signed the agreement with the quadrennial event to continue their efforts of promoting development through sports across the country.

Pankaj Advani Became First Indian To Win Asian Snooker Tour Title

i. **Nineteen-time world champion Pankaj Advani** has won the second leg of the Asian Snooker Tour in **Jinan, China**.

ii. Advani delivered a power-packed performance to outclass China's **Ju Reti** 6-1 in the final and become the **first Indian to win an Asian Snooker Tour event**.

Qatar To Host World Corporate Games in 2019

i. **Qatar will host the 23rd edition of the World Corporate Games 2019**. The Games will provide an opportunity for corporations around the world to showcase their competitive prowess through sports, the organisers said.

ii. **This is the first time the World Corporate Games** will be held in the **Middle East**. The sporting event takes place every one to two years and the last edition was held in Houston in the US last year.

Important Takeaways from above news-

- **Qatar Capital: Doha, Currency: Qatari riyal.**

Mary Kom Named Brand Ambassador Of 2018 Women's World Boxing Championships

i. Olympic **bronze medalist** and **five-time World Champion, MC Mary Kom** has been named as the **brand ambassador** of the **10th edition** of the **Women's World Championship** in **New Delhi**.

ii. **Mary Kom** will be seeking her sixth Women's World Championship crown and second gold at home since **2006**, as she leads the Indian contingent for the 2018 AIBA Women's World Boxing Championships to be held at the IG Stadium's K.D. Jhadav Hall.

Subhankar Dey Wins SaarLorLux Open Badminton Tournament

- i. In Badminton, **Subhankar Dey has won the SaarLorLux Open** at Saarbrücken in Germany.
- ii. In the summit clash, the unseeded Indian defeated fifth-placed Rajiv Ouseph of Britain, in straight games, in what was the first encounter between the two shuttlers.

Simone Biles Sets World Record, Wins 13th World Championship Gold

- i. **Simone Biles made history** by picking up her record **13th career gold medal at the world gymnastics championships** in Doha, Qatar.
- ii. Simone Biles became the first ever gymnast to win 13 world championship gold medals. She hails from **the USA**.

Bajrang Punia Becomes Number 1 In World in 65kg

- i. **Star Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia** touched a new high in his career by achieving the **number one rank in the world in the 65kg category**. The 24-year-old Bajrang was placed atop the ranking table **with 96 points in the UWW list**.
- ii. It has turned out to be a remarkable season for Bajrang, who was also the only Indian grappler to be given a seeding at the Budapest World Championship. Bajrang is comfortably leading the table and Cuban Alejandro Enrique Vlades Tobier is a distant second with 66 points.

Women's World Boxing Championships Begins in Delhi

- i. The **Women's World Boxing Championships begins in Delhi**. This tenth edition of the tournament is set to be the **biggest ever** as more than 300 boxers from 72 countries are taking part.
- ii. The championship is being **hosted by India for the first time since 2006** when the country had topped the table with four gold, one silver and three bronze medals.

Important Takeaways from above news-

- In the last edition of World Boxing Championship, India won just a silver through Sonia Lather in the 57 kg category.

Former England Midfielder Joe Cole Announced Retirement

- i. Former **England and Chelsea Football midfielder Joe Cole** has retired at the age of 37.
- ii. He played at 2002, 2006 and 2010 World Cups, making his final England appearance at the latter tournament in South Africa. He scored 10 goals in 56 games for England between **2001 and 2010**.

Lewis Hamilton Won Brazilian Grand Prix

- i. **Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes)** won the **Brazilian Grand Prix** after **Red Bull's Max Verstappen** lost the lead in a collision with backmarker **Esteban Ocon (Force India)**.
- ii. The incident dropped the Dutchman back to second place and although he came back at Hamilton, he could not quite catch him. **Kimi Raikkonen of Ferrari** secured the third-place.

Fuzhou China Open 2018 Concludes: Complete List Of Winners

The 2018 Fuzhou China Open was the **23rd tournament of the 2018 BWF (Badminton World Federation)** World Tour. The tournament was organized by Chinese Badminton Association. It was sanctioned by BWF. Total prize money for the tournament was \$700,000.

Here is the complete list of winners of Fuzhou China Open 2018:

Event	Winners	Runners-up
Men's Singles	Kento Momota (Japan)	Chou Tien-chen (Chinese Taipei)
Women's Singles	Chen Yufei (China)	Nozomi Okuhara (Japan)

Mary Kom Wins Sixth World Championship Title, Creates History

- i. **MC Mary Kom** has created history by **becoming the first woman to win six boxing world titles** by clinching the 48 kg gold at the 2018 AIBA Women's World Boxing Championships in New Delhi. The 35-year-old Indian legend got the better of Ukrainian Hanna Okhota in the summit clash.
- ii. 16 years after winning her maiden World Championship – and eight years since her last – Mary overtakes Ireland's Katie Taylor as the first female boxer to win six gold medals, and becomes only the second pugilist ever (male or female) to achieve the feat after Felix Savon.

Alexander Zverev Won ATP World Tour Finals in London

- i. **Alexander Zverev** has won **ATP World Tour finals in London**. Alexander Zverev defeated world number one Novak Djokovic in straight sets to claim the season-ending ATP Finals and earn the biggest victory of his career. Zverev also became **the first player to beat both Djokovic and Federer in the same ATP Finals**.
- ii. The 21-year-old Zverev became the youngest champion of the season-ending event since Djokovic claimed the first of his five titles a decade ago and the **first from Germany since 1995**.

Lakshya Sen Wins Bronze At World Junior Badminton Championship

- i. **India's top junior shuttler Lakshya Sen (17 years old)** won bronze medal at **Li Ning BWF World Junior Badminton Championships 2018 held at Markham, Canada**.
- ii. In singles semi-final match, he lost to top seed and world junior number one Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand. This was Sen's first medal from this prestigious tournament in three attempts.

Bangladesh Wins 59th Edition of Subroto Cup Football Tournament

- i. **Bangladesh Krida Shiksha Prothishtan (BKSP)** won the **59th edition of the junior boys Subroto Cup International Football Tournament** beating Amini School, Afghanistan by a solitary goal **at the Ambedkar Stadium in New Delhi**.
- ii. It was one of the biggest tournaments in its category in the entire football world. Sonia Lather, silver-medal winner in the 2016 AIBA women's World Boxing Championship was the guest of honour during the ceremony.
- iii. **Awards Conferred in the 59th Edition of Subroto Cup Football Tournament:**
Best Goalkeeper Award: Pranub Limboo of Govt. Senior Secondary School, Namchi (Sikkim).
Best Player Award: Mohammad Nemil of Reliance Foundation School, Mumbai.
Best Coach Award: Raghu Kumar of Army Boys Sports Company, Bangalore.
Fair Play Trophy: Reliance Foundation School, Mumbai.

Wasim Jaffer Becomes 1st To Touch 11,000-Run Milestone in Ranji Trophy

- i. **Veteran first-class cricketer Wasim Jaffer** became the **first Indian batsman to touch the 11,000-run figure in the Ranji Trophy**. The Vidharbha batsman achieved the milestone during the third-round match against Baroda in Nagpur at the **Vidarbha Cricket Association (VCA) Stadium, Nagpur, Maharashtra**.

ii. The cricketer had made his first-class debut in 1996-97. The former opener had made his international **Test debut against South Africa** in April 2008. He has played a total of 32 Tests in his international career scoring 1944 runs with an average of 34.11 which also includes five centurion knocks.

Former Chelsea Striker Didier Drogba Announces Retirement at 40

- i. **Former Chelsea striker Didier Drogba** announced his retirement, calling time on a 20-year career in which the bullish center-forward **won four Premier League titles and the 2012 Champions League**.
- ii. Ivorian Drogba, who **had been playing in the United States for Phoenix Rising**, had two spells at Chelsea, scoring 164 goals in 381 games having spearheaded the west London club's revival under owner Roman Abramovich.

Syed Modi International Championships: Sameer Verma Won Gold, Saina Silver

- i. **Sameer Verma** has won the **Syed Modi International Badminton Championships, men's singles final against China's Guangzu Lu**, to retain the title. With this win, Verma sealed his spot in the **BWF World Tour Finals**. However, former champion **Saina Nehwal** lost to **Han Yue** of China in women's singles summit clash and won silver.
- ii. Men's doubles pair of **Satwik Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty** and women's doubles players **Ashwini Ponnappa and Sikki Reddy** also won silver in their respective finals.

Australia Win Women's World Twenty20 Crown

- i. **Australia** clinched **Women's World Twenty20** title as they attained an easy win over **England** in the final of the Women's World T20 tournament.
- ii. This is Australia's **4th title win** at Women's World T20 in 6 editions of the tournament. The Southern Stars have won the trophy previously in 2010, 2012 and 2014. **West Indies** hosted the event.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Player of the Match:** Ashleigh Gardner.
- **Player of the Tournament:** Alyssa Healy.

Monaco To Host 2019 Laureus Awards in February

- i. The **19th edition** of the prestigious **Laureus World Sports Awards** will be held in **Monaco on February 2019**. Considered the '**Oscars of sports**', the Laureus World Sports Awards celebrate global sporting achievements across the calendar year.
- ii. Former India cricket captains **Kapil Dev, Rahul Dravid**, and **Sachin Tendulkar** are members of the **Laureus Academy**. In 2018,

Hockey World Cup 2018 Inaugurated In Odisha

- i. **Odisha** is hosting the **Hockey World Cup 2018**. The opening ceremony of Men's Hockey World Cup took place at **Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar**. The opening ceremony, which was almost a three-hour long, conveyed a powerful message of "**oneness of humanity**".
- ii. India is hosting the FIH Hockey World Cup for the third time, earlier **Mumbai in 1982** and **New Delhi in 2010** have hosted the event. World's top 16 teams will fight for the coveted title in the 14th edition of the tournament.

Important Takeways from above news-

- **Odisha CM:** Naveen Patnaik, **Governor:** Ganeshi Lal.

Obituaries

African American Playwright Ntozake Shange Passes Away

i. Playwright, poet and author Ntozake Shange, whose most acclaimed theatre piece is the 1975 Tony Award-nominated play “For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow is Enuf,” had passed away. She was 70.

1971 War Hero M.P. Awati Passes Away

- i. Vice-Admiral M.P. Awati (retd.)**, who commanded a naval unit of the Eastern Fleet in the **1971 India-Pakistan war** and whose actions led to the destruction of an enemy submarine, passed away.
- ii.** Vice-Admiral Awati was 91 years old. He was the commanding officer of **INS Kamorta** during the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War. He was awarded the Vir Chakra for his leadership and gallantry.

Stan Lee, Co-Creator of Spider-Man, Iron Man, Passes Away

- i. American comic-book writer and Marvel Comics co-creator Stan Lee** passed away aged 95.
- ii.** Born as Stanley Martin Lieber in Manhattan, he is credited with co-creating several fictional characters including Spider-Man, the Hulk, Doctor Strange, the X-Men, Iron Man, and Thor.

Veteran Marathi Actress Lalan Sarang Passes Away

i. Veteran theatre and Marathi film actor Lalan Sarang had passed away in Pune where she was hospitalized for a month for multiple ailments. Sarang was 79 years old.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Ananth Kumar Passes Away

i. Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, and Chemicals and Fertilizers H.N. Ananth Kumar, also a senior BJP leader from the State passed away in Bengaluru. He was 59.

ii. Mr Kumar was diagnosed with lung cancer at an advanced stage in June. A six-time member of parliament from Bengaluru South Lok Sabha seat, Mr. Kumar was representing it continuously since 1996.

Asia's 1st Woman Neurosurgeon TS Kanaka Passes Away

i. **Dr. TS Kanaka, the continent's first woman neurosurgeon**, passed away after a brief illness at the age of 86. She was **the third woman neurosurgeon in the whole world**.

ii. Born on March 31, 1932, and raised in Chennai, she obtained her MBBS degree in December 1954, and Master of Surgery in Neurosurgery in March 1968.

Padma Shri Awardee Saint Narayan Das Maharaj Passes Away

i. **Padma Shri awardee and revered saint Narayan Das Maharaj** of Triveni dham near Jaipur passed away.

ii. He was awarded Padma Shri in January 2018.

Singer Mohammed Aziz Passes Away

i. **Singer Mohammed Aziz** has passed away aged **64** following a **cardiac arrest** in Mumbai. He was returning from Kolkata when he collapsed at the airport.

ii. Aziz, who did playback singing in Hindi, Bengali and Odia films, was known for songs like 'My Name is Lakhan', 'Mard Tangewala' and 'Main Teri Mohabbat Mein'.

Oscar-Winning Screenwriter William Goldman Passes Away

i. **The Oscar-winning screenwriter and best-selling author William Goldman**, known for "**Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid**" and "**All The President's Men**", **passes away**. He was 87.

ii. Goldman also wrote the novels and then the screenplays for Marathon Man (1976), Magic (1978) and the much-loved The Princess Bride (1987). The cause of death was complications from colon cancer and pneumonia.

Former Indian Hockey Player Sandeep Michael Passes Away

i. **Former Indian hockey player, Sandeep Michael**, who captained the Indian junior team to a gold at the **Asia Cup 2003**, died at the age of 33 after battling an unspecified neurological problem.

ii. In 2001, he made his debut for the country as a junior in the Under-18 Asia Cup at Ipoh in Malaysia under Jugraj Singh. Michael found fame at the senior level in a tournament in Australia in 2003.

Noted Indian Classical Musician Ustad Imrat Khan Passes Away

i. Classical music stalwart **Ustad Imrat Khan**, who dedicated his life to propagating the **Sitar** and the **surbahar** worldwide, has died in the US after a brief illness. He was 83.

ii. He belonged to the illustrious **Etawa Gharana**, or the **Imdadkhani Gharana**, named after his grandfather Ustad Imdad Khan. He had also performed at the Cannes Film Festival in 1970.

Oscar-Winning Director Bernardo Bertolucci Passes Away

i. **Italian filmmaker Bernardo Bertolucci**, who won **Oscars** with "**The Last Emperor**" and whose erotic drama "**Last Tango in Paris**" enthralled and shocked the world, has **passed away**. He was 77.

SpongeBob SquarePants Creator Stephen Hillenburg Passes Away

i. Stephen Hillenburg, the creator of **SpongeBob SquarePants**, has passed away at the age of **57**. He was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (**ALS**), also known as motor neurone disease (**MND**), in March 2017.

ii. He was also honoured with a **special Emmy "for his contribution and impact made in the animation field and within the broadcast industry"** in early 2018.



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Important Days with theme

CLAT coaching by NLU grads

National Unity Day: 31st October

i. National Unity day (also known as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) is celebrated every year on **31st of October** by the people all through India. It is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel who really unified the country.

ii. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas was introduced by the Government of India in 2014 with the aim of celebrating this event every year on 31st October.

National Ayurveda Day: 5 November

i. Ministry of AYUSH observes **Ayurveda Day** every year on **Dhanawantari Jayanti (Dhanteras)**. The theme of 2018 Ayurveda Day was: **“Ayurveda for Public health”**.

ii. This year Ayurveda Day is being observed on 5th November 2018. On this occasion, Ministry has organized a **“National Seminar on Entrepreneurship and Business Development in Ayurveda”** in association with NITI Aayog at Dr. Ambedkar International centre, Janapth, New Delhi.

World Science Day for Peace and Development: 10 November

i. World Science Day for Peace and Development is celebrated every year on **10 November**.

ii. The theme for 2018 is **“Science, a Human Right”**.

World Diabetes Day: 14 November

- i. The **World Diabetes Day** is organized on **14 November** throughout the world.
- ii. The theme for World Diabetes Day 2018 and 2019 is '**The Family and Diabetes**'.

International Day for Tolerance: 16 November

- i. Every year on **16 November**, the international community celebrates the **International Day for Tolerance** with activities that target both educational institutions and the general public.
- ii. **UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence**: In 1995, to mark the United Nations Year for Tolerance and the 125th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, UNESCO created a prize for the promotion of tolerance and non-violence.
- iii. The 2018 winners are social entrepreneur and filmmaker **Manon Barbeau (Canada)** and the **Coexist Initiative, a non-profit organization working to end violence against women (Kenya)**.

World Toilet Day: 19 November

- i. The World Toilet Day is organized around the world on 19th of November. The day is about inspiring action to tackle the global sanitation crisis. The theme for WTD 2018 is '**When Nature Calls**'.
- ii. United Nations' **Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6)** aims to ensure availability and sustainable management of sanitation and water for all by 2030.

Universal Children's Day: 20 November

- i. **United Nations Universal Children's Day** was established in **1954** and is celebrated on **November 20th** each year to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare.

NCC Day: 4th Sunday of November

- i. National Cadets Corps (NCC) day is celebrated every year on the fourth Sunday in the month of November. The NCC in India was formed by the National Cadet Corps Act of 1948 on 15th July 1948.
- ii. The first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru presided over the function of raising the first NCC Unit at Delhi on the last Sunday of Nov 1948. The motto for the NCC is "Unity and Discipline".

National Milk Day: 26 November

- i. National Milk Day is celebrated on November 26 to mark the birth anniversary of India's most successful dairy entrepreneur Dr. Varghese Kurien, the founder of dairy firm Amul.
- ii. He served Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) from 1973 to 2006. India is the largest milk producer in the world. The per capita milk available pan India is 355 grams per day.

Indian Constitution Day: 26 November

- i. 26 November is celebrated as Indian Constitution Day. On this day in 1949, the constitution was adopted which came into force on January 26, 1950, marking the beginning of a new era in the history of India.
- ii. On 19th November 2015, during the year-long celebration of the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. B R Ambedkar, Government of India declared November 26th as the Constitution Day.

MoS (Home) Kiren Rijiju Inaugurates 14th Formation Day of NDMA

- i. The Minister of State for Home Affairs **Kiren Rijiju** has inaugurated the **14th Formation Day of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** on 27th November 2018 in **New Delhi**. The theme of this year's Formation Day is '**Early Warning for Disasters**'.
- ii. On the occasion, NDMA also released a training manual for masons on Hazard-Resistant Construction. A study report on "Gujarat floods 2017: A Case Study" will also be released.



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