

Important Current Affairs - Monthly PDF June 2018

June 1 - June 30, 2018

FIFA World Cup 2018:

- The 2018 FIFA World Cup is the **21st** FIFA World Cup.
- Host country - **Russia**
- Dates - 14 June to 15 July
- Teams - 32
- Venue(s) - 12
- Official Mascot - **Wolf** named Zabivaka, means “the one who scores” in Russian
- Logo depicts the World Cup trophy in red and blue, colors from the Russian flag, with a gold trim.
- Opening ceremony - took place on Thursday, 14 June 2018, at the **Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow**.
- Opening match of the tournament between - Russia and Saudi Arabia.

Indian International Film Awards (IIFA) 2018:

- 19th IIFA Awards were announced on **24 June, 2018** in **Thailand's** Siam Niramit.
- **Sridevi** won **Best Actress** (posthumously) for her role in 2017 film **MOM**, her husband Boney Kapoor collected the prize at the Indian International Film Awards (IIFA), held in Bangkok.
- **Irrfan Khan** won the prize for **Best Actor** in a leading role for Hindi Medium.

Award	Person/Film	Work
Best Film	Tumhari Sulu	
Best Director	Saket Chaudhary	for “Hindi Medium”
Best Actor In A	Irrfan Khan	for “Hindi Medium”

Leading Role		
Best Actress In A Leading Role	Sridevi	for “Mom”
Best Actor In A Supporting Role	Nawazuddin Siddiqui	for “Mom”
Best Actress In A Supporting Role	Meher Vij	for “Secret Superstar”
Best Story	Amit V Masurkar	for “Newton”
Best Screenplay	Nitesh Tiwari and Shreyas Jain	for “Bareilly Ki Barfi”
Best Debut Director	Konkona Sen Sharma	for “A Death in the Gunj”
Best Music Director	Amaal Mallik, Tanishk Bagchi, Akhil Sachdeva	for “Badrinath Ki Dulhania”
Best Background Score	Pritam	for “Jagga Jasoos”
Best Playback Singer (Male)	Arijit Singh	for "Hawayein" - Jab Harry Met Sejal
Best Playback Singer (Female)	Meghna Mishra	for "Main Kaun Hoon" - Secret Superstar
Best Lyrics	Manoj Muntashir	for "Mere Rashke Qamar" — Baadshaho

French Open Tennis 2018:

From 21st May to 10th June 2018, French Open tennis tournament also known as Roland Garros, was held in **Paris**, France.

Event	Winner
2018 Men's Singles	Rafael Nadal

2018 Women's Singles	Simona Halep
2018 Men's Doubles	Pierre-Hugues Herbert, Nicolas Mahut
2018 Women's Doubles	Barbora Krejčíková, Kateřina Siniaková
2018 Mixed Doubles	Latisha Chan, Ivan Dodig

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS:

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos became the Richest Person in the World:

- Amazon founder and CEO **Jeff Bezos** has become the richest man in the world with a net wealth of USD 141.9 billion, as per the Forbes World's Billionaires list.
- **Bill Gates**, the principal founder of Microsoft Corporation, is the **second**-richest man in the world with USD 92.9 billion.
- **Warren Buffet** ranked **third** place with a total of wealth of USD 82.2 billion.

India And Nepal To Have Four New Air Gateways:

- India has agreed to open four new air entry points to **Nepal** in the eastern and western parts of the country.
- This aims at facilitating movement of international traffic.
- The four routes that India agreed to make two-way are
 - 1) Kathmandu-Biratnagar-Dhaka,
 - 2) Kathmandu-Janakpur-Kolkata
 - 3) Kathmandu-Janakpur-Patna in the eastern part of Nepal and
 - 4) Kathmandu-Mahendranagar-Delhi (L626) in the west.

China unveils 4 point vision for future cooperation with India:

- On June 18, 2018, Chinese envoy to India Luo Zhaohui unveiled a four-point vision for future cooperation with India.
- This is followed by the informal summit between PM Narendra Modi and Chinese President **Xi Jinping**.
- The four-point vision are:
 - 1) Sign a Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation
 - 2) Negotiate a bilateral Free Trade Agreement
 - 3) Enhance connectivity
 - 4) Work for early harvest on boundary issues.

United States withdrew from the United Nations Human Rights Council:

- The United Nations Human Rights Council consists of 47 member states, with a specific number of seats given to each region of the world.
- Members are elected by the U.N. General Assembly for three-year terms and cannot serve more than two terms in a row.

UK Queen approves Brexit Bill, allowing UK to leave European Union:

- Britain's Queen **Elizabeth II** granted royal assent to Prime Minister Theresa May's flagship Brexit legislation, that will formally end the country's European Union membership.
- The EU withdrawal bill repeals the **1972** European Communities Act through which the UK became a member of the bloc.

Saudi Arabia becomes last country in the World to allow women to drive:

- On **June 4**, Saudi Arabia issued the first driving license to women, as Saudi King **Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud** officially announced in September 2017 to allow women to drive.
- Driving schools for women have been set up in five cities in the kingdom.

Meeting between Trump and Putin will be held in Finland on 16th July:

- A summit between **Russian President Vladimir Putin** and **U.S. President Donald Trump** will be held on July 16 in **Helsinki**.
- The two leaders will discuss relations between the United States and Russia and a range of **national security** issues.
- The summit meeting is expected to deal with an broad array of issues, including Syria, the role of Russia-backed forces in Eastern Ukraine and arms control.

China launches spy bird drone to boost Government surveillance:

- China has launched bird-shaped drones fitted with a camera, GPS antenna, and satellite communication capability, to **monitor citizens** living in different parts of the country.
- The program is code named as "Dove".

Russian billionaire declared himself as the leader of the world's first space nation "Asgardia":

- Russian billionaire and scientist **Igor Ashurbeyli** officially declared himself as the leader of the world's first space nation 'Asgardia'.

- Ashurbeyli's brainchild Asgardia aims to be an independent space **nation**, with its own government, currency, justice system and calendar.
- Focused towards establishing a permanent settlement on the moon in 25 years, Asgardia already has 2 lakh citizens.
- **About Asgardia:-**
 - Asgardia, also known as the Space Kingdom of Asgardia, is a proposed and self-proclaimed nation in **outer space**.
 - Capital - Asgardia-1 (satellite)
 - Administrative center - Vienna, Austria
 - Purported currency - SOLAR (proposed)
 - Membership - 199,000 (approx.)

China bans HBO after UK comedian criticises President Xi Jinping:

- China has banned US film and television production company HBO's website following UK comedian **John Oliver**'s critique of Chinese President Xi Jinping on his show “Last Week Tonight”.
- Oliver had compared the Chinese President to cartoon character '**Winnie the Pooh**'.

Nine EU member states agreed to establish a joint military force:

- Ministers from France, Germany, Belgium, Britain, Denmark, the Netherlands, Estonia, Spain and Portugal signed a letter of intent in Luxembourg, to establish a joint European military intervention force.
- The campaign to establish an autonomous European defence force was spearheaded by **French President Emmanuel Macron**.

Pakistan placed on 'Grey list' by Financial Action Task Force:

- The placement on the “**grey list**” could hurt Pakistan's economy as well as its international standing.
- The announcement comes a day after Pakistan submitted a comprehensive 26-point action plan to the FATF (Financial Action Task Force) to choke the funding of militants groups, including Mumbai attacks mastermind Hafiz Saeed-led JuD and its affiliates, to avoid being blacklisted by it.
- The FATF is an inter-governmental body established in **1989** to combat money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Launches International RuPay Card, Bhim App And UPI In Singapore:

- With the launch, India's RuPay digital payments system was linked up with **Singapore's** 33-year old Network for Electronic Transfers (NETS).
- Holders of Singapore NETS will be able to make an online purchase on any **National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI)** e-commerce merchant website in India, using 2.8 million RuPay point of sale terminals in India.

India's first national sports university to be set up in Manipur:

- President **Ram Nath Kovind** gave his assent to an ordinance to set up the country's first national sports university in Manipur.

- National Sports University Ordinance, 2018 will be on the lines of the National Sports University Bill, 2017 which was introduced in Lok Sabha in 2017.

Andhra Pradesh Got Its Own Symbols:

- **Neem** is declared as the state tree of Andhra Pradesh.
- **Black buck** is declared as the state animal.
- The rose-ringed **parakeet** will be the state bird
- while **jasmine** will be the state flower.

NTPC adopted Charminar under Swachh Iconic Places Project:

- This is a part of special drive under the Centre's **Swachh Bharat Mission**.
- NTPC Ltd. and the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) have signed a MoU for implementation of development and beautification works under the Charminar Pedestrianization Project in Hyderabad.

India hosted European Union Film Festival from 18th June:

- The European Union Film Festival (EUFF) 2018 was held in **New Delhi** on 18th June, 2018 at the Siri Fort Auditorium.
- The festival is organised in 11 Indian cities: New Delhi, Chennai, Port Blair, Pune, Puducherry, Kolkata, Jaipur, Visakhapatnam, Thrissur, Hyderabad and Goa from 18th June till 31st August.
- The Festival was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, **Mr. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore**.

Union Minister inaugurated three 100 MW solar power projects erected at Virudhunagar and Tirunelveli districts:

- Union Minister for Railways, Coal, Finance & Company Affairs, Shri **Piyush Goyal** inaugurated Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited (NLCIL)'s three 100 MW Solar Power Projects which are situated at Thoppalaakkarai and Sethupuram in Virudhunagar District and Sellaiya Sezhiyanallur in Tirunelveli District of Tamil Nadu.
- These projects were erected at a cost of **Rs.1300 Crores**, which includes Operation & Maintenance cost for **15 Years**.

Puducherry demanded full statehood, after Delhi Assembly passed the resolution for full statehood:

- Addressing the governing council of NITI Ayog in New Delhi, Puducherry **Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy** has renewed the demand for Statehood with special status for the Union Territory.
- He claimed Puducherry faces the same issues as **Delhi**.
- Puducherry Lieutenant Governor - **Kiran Bedi**

States have collected taxes worth Rs.10,000 crore since the rollout of Transport Mission Mode Project (MMP):

- Over 19 crore vehicles and 10 crore driving license records have come under the National Register.
- Two flagship applications under Transport MMP -- "Vahan" and "Sarathi" are implemented.
 - **Vahan** -- deal with vehicle registration, taxation, permit, fitness and associated services;
 - while **Sarathi** is related to driving licence, learner licence, driving schools and related activities.

Indian Government to team up with Google for flood forecasting:

- Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, **Nitin Gadkari** has expressed that Union Government's collaboration with **Google** will help in effective flood management in India.

India will become 5 Trillion dollar Economy and the World's third largest consumer market by 2025:

- Addressing the diaspora in Athens, **President Ram Nath Kovind** reported that India is striving to become a \$5 trillion economy and the world's third largest consumer market by 2025.
- Currently India's economy is estimated at **\$2.5 trillion**.

Punjab govt launched a mobile app named "i-Hariyali" to offer free saplings:

- Punjab govt launched a mobile app named "i-Hariyali" under '**Mission Tandarust**' to offer free saplings for users.
- The users can book a sapling of their choice, a maximum of 25 per person, from a nearby government nursery.

Three Day National Yoga Olympiad 2018 began in New Delhi:

- For the third consecutive year, National Council for Educational Research and Training (**NCERT**) organised three-day National Yoga Olympiad-2018 in New Delhi.
- In this, 500 students from 26 states and four regional educational institutions are taking part.
- Two books named "**Joy of Theater**" and "**Music**" were also released on this occasion.

Haryana has become the first state in India to give star ranking to its villages:

- A total of **1,120 villages** of Haryana have achieved star ranking under '**7-Star Gram Panchayat Rainbow Scheme**' launched in January 2018 by Chief Minister Manohar Lal.
- The star rating to the village panchayats under the scheme is given on the basis of seven parameters and for each parameter different colours of stars are awarded such as
 - Pink star for outstanding performance in improving sex ratio.
 - Green star for protection of environment,
 - White star for cleanliness,
 - Saffron star for crime-free villages.
 - Sky colour star awarded to village that will have no drop out.
 - Golden star for good governance.
 - Silver star for participation in development of villages.
- Under the scheme the villages would be rewarded Rs 1 lakh for achieving each star.

Shillong selected as the 100th Smart City:

- In January 2016, 20 cities were announced under the Smart Cities Mission, followed by 13 cities in May 2016, 27 cities in September 2016, 30 cities in June 2017, and 9 cities in January this year.
- The total proposed investment in the finally selected 100 cities under the Smart Cities Mission would be **Rs 2,05,018 crore**.
- Under the scheme, each city will get **Rs 500 crore** from the Centre for implementing various projects.
- The 100 Smart Cities Mission was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on **June 25, 2015**.

Surat selected for “City Award” category under 2018 India Smart Cities Award:

- Joint winners in ‘**Innovative Idea**’ category were **Bhopal** for its Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) and Ahmedabad for Safe and Secure **Ahmedabad** (SASA) Project.
- Under ‘**Social Aspects**’ category - NDMC (New Delhi Municipal Council) and Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) bagged the award for implementation of ‘smart classrooms’ project,
- Under ‘**urban environment**’ category - Bhopal, Pune and Coimbatore bagged the award for public bike-sharing project.

World’s first International Centre for Humanitarian Forensics (ICHF) launched in Gujarat:

- ICHF is launched by the Gujarat Forensic Sciences University (GFSU) in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Regional Delegation for India, Bhutan, Nepal and the Maldives.

PM Modi inaugurates Rs 3,866 cr Mohanpura irrigation project in Madhya Pradesh:

- The Rs. 3,866-crore Mohanpura irrigation project in **Rajgarh** district in Madhya Pradesh includes a dam and a canal system, which benefit **727** villages in the state.
- It would irrigate 1.25 lakh hectares of land and would also provide drinking water to over 400 villages.
- Madhya Pradesh chief minister - **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**

India plans to cut oil imports from Iran amid US request:

- After US re-imposed sanctions against **Iran** after it withdrew from the 2015 nuclear deal, India is planning to cut oil imports from

Iran, and replacing them with more purchases from **Saudi Arabia and Kuwait**.

- This comes after the US Ambassador to the UN **Nikki Haley** asked PM Narendra Modi to reduce India's dependence on Iran.
- Iran is India's **third** largest oil supplier behind Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

Southern Railways imposes penalty of Rs.2,000 for taking selfie in front of train:

- People found repeating the offence will be imprisoned for **six** months.
- The initiative aims to cut down on selfie-related train mishaps which have grown recently.

Union Government approves tourism projects worth 1,800 crore rupees for Himachal:

- This comes after tourism was affected in Shimla over severe water scarcity in May.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister - **Jai Ram Thakur**.

Haryana makes use of LED bulbs mandatory in govt offices by 15 Aug:

- As per directions of the Haryana's Chief Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar**, all halogen, sodium bulbs and tube lights will be replaced with energy-efficient LED bulbs and tube lights.

Haryana village 1st to pass “No Toilet, No Bride” resolution:

- Haryana's **Godikan** village panchayat has passed a 'No Toilet, No Bride' resolution, becoming the first panchayat in the country to do so.
- According to the resolution, girls from Godikan will not be married off in houses without a toilet.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Mundka-Bahadurgarh corridor:

- **11-km-long** fully elevated Mundka-Bahadurgarh stretch, with seven stations, is an extension of the existing **Delhi Metro's Green Line** from Inderlok to Mundka.
- Union Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri and Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar attended the function in Bahadurgarh.
- Bahadurgarh, is also known as '**Gateway to Haryana**'.

Monsoon Session of Parliament to be held from 18th July to 10th August:

- The government plans to pass the **Constitution (123rd) Amendment Bill, 2017** that seeks to accord constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC).
- Other important Bills, including the **Triple Talaq bill** and the **Transgender Bill**, among others, will be brought in Parliament for passing them.
- The session will comprise 18 working days.
- Parliamentary affairs minister - **Ananth Kumar**.

ADNOC joins Saudi Aramco to build Ratnagiri Refinery:

- Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) and Saudi Aramco have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to jointly develop and build an integrated **refinery** and petrochemicals complex at **Ratnagiri in Maharashtra**.
- Saudi Aramco and ADNOC will together hold 50 per cent stake.
- State owned oil-refiners IOCL, HPCL & BPCL will have 50 per cent stake in the Ratnagiri Refinery.

Gujarat Govt launches solar scheme, Suryashakti Kisan Yojna:

- This pilot project, estimated to cost **Rs 870 crore**, will cover 12,400 cultivators and will be launched from **July 2**.
- Under Suryashakti Kisan Yojna (SKY), grid-connected solar panels will be provided to over 12,000 cultivators who have already taken regular electricity connections for **irrigation purpose**.
- This is a revolutionary step after **Jyoti Gram Yojna** that brought 24 x 7 electricity in the villages.

India pledged USD 5 million for Palestine Refugees:

- A total of **20** countries, including India, announced contributions to the 2018 budget of the **United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)** for Palestine Refugees.
- In March, India announced it will increase its annual contribution to the UNRWA from USD 1.5 million to USD 5 million (₹34.09 crore) from 2018-19 for a period of three years.
- Sweden will contribute USD 250 million over four years, the UK USD 51 million and the UAE USD 50 million among other donors.
- Commissioner-General of UNRWA - **Pierre Krahenbuhl**.

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj launched the "mPassport Seva" mobile application:

- To help deliver passports to applicants at their residence, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj launched the "mPassport Seva" mobile application on the occasion of 'Passport Seva Divas'.
- She also scrapped the marriage certificate's compulsion, required for obtaining passports.

Hindi is the most spoken language in India, Bengali second:

- According to the language data of **Census 2011**, **Hindi** is the mother tongue of **43.63%** Indians, making it the country's most spoken language, followed by **Bengali**.
- Further, **Marathi** has replaced Telugu as the **third** most spoken language in the nation.
- While Sanskrit is least spoken, Urdu became the seventh most spoken language in India.

Finance Ministry approves Metro Rail projects in 5 cities of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh:

- The Union Finance Ministry has given "in-principle" approval to proposed Metro Rail projects in **Indore, Bhopal, Kanpur, Agra, and Delhi**.
- The estimated cost of the projects is **₹1.07 lakh crore**.
- Besides the five metro projects, the Rs 32,000 crore **Delhi-Meerut corridor** of the proposed Rapid Rail Transit System also got the in-principle nod from the finance ministry.

President inaugurated Udyam Sangam 2018 in New Delhi:

- On International MSME (Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises) Day 2018, the President of India **Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated the “**Udyam Sangam-2018**” in **New Delhi**.
- It will empower women and weaker sections by providing training to **80 lakh women**.
- The President also launched the **Solar Charkha Mission** which will cover 50 clusters and every cluster will employ 400 to 2000 artisans.
- President unveiled a portal of the Ministry of MSME called '**Sampark**', which will act as a bridge between the talent pool and those enterprises seeking trained human resources.

Odisha CM increased the health cover under “Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana”:

- Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** announced that insurance coverage for women under the BJD’s health insurance proposal has been raised to **Rs 7 lakh from Rs 5 lakh**.
- He accepted a proposal by a Malkangiri woman while holding a session of “**Ama Gaon Ama Bikas**” - a direct fund disbursement programme for development activities.
- Odisha government had earlier announced the scheme on June 12 which would be implemented from **August 15**.

Ten new Swachh Iconic Places taken under Phase II of Swachh Bharat Mission:

- Union Minister for Rural Development **Narendra Singh Tomar** has announced these places during the **second** quarterly review

meeting on the Swachh Iconic Places (SIP) held at Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, in Katra, **Jammu and Kashmir**.

- These **ten new iconic places** which are to be brought to a higher standard of swachhta and visitors' amenities are :
 - 1. Gangotri,
 - 2. Yamunotri.
 - 3. Mahakaleshwar Temple, Ujjain,
 - 4. Char Minar, Hyderabad,
 - 5. Church and Convent of St. Francis of Assissi, Goa,
 - 6. Adi Shankaracharya's abode Kaladi in Ernakulam,
 - 7. Gomateshwar in Shravanbelgola,
 - 8. Baijnath Dham, Devghar,
 - 9. Gaya Tirth in Bihar and
 - 10. Somnath temple in Gujarat.

Government approves 2 more Strategic Oil Storages in Odisha and Karnataka:

- The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi has approved to set up two more underground crude oil storages in **Chandikhol, Odisha**, and **Padur, Karnataka** to increase emergency stockpile cover by 12 days to 22 days.
- The announcement was made by the Finance Minister **Piyush Goyal** in New Delhi.
- The SPR (Strategic Petroleum Reserve) facilities at Chandikhol and Padur will be underground rock caverns and will have capacities of **4 MMT and 2.5 MMT** respectively.

Government approves draft Act to replace UGC with Higher Education Commission of India:

- The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) **Prakash Javadekar** proposed a draft bill to repeal the **University Grants Commission (UGC) Act of 1956** and set up the **Higher Education Commission of India (HECI)**, a move that aims to reform higher education in India.
- The new draft legislation comes after an earlier proposal to form an umbrella regulator– **HEERA** was scrapped by the MHRD in May this year.
- HEERA was supposed to replace all the other regulators - All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) and UGC.

Surat jewellers make 28 crore rupees ring with 6,690 diamonds, set Guinness world record:

- Surat-based jewellers **Vishal Agarwal and Khushbu Agarwal** manufactured a ring containing 6,690 diamonds, registering the **Guinness world record** for 'Most diamonds set in one ring'.
- The ring is 18 karat rose gold structure, shaped like a lotus flower.
- The previous record of 3,827 diamonds was set by Jaipur-based Savio Jewellery.

Nobel laureate Satyarthi launches app named “ReUnite” to track missing kids:

- Nobel Peace Prize recipient **Kailash Satyarthi**, along with union minister **Suresh Prabhu**, launched a mobile application called 'ReUnite' that tracks **missing or abandoned kids**.

- The app is a collaboration between Bachpan Bachao Andolan led by Kailash Satyarthi and IT major **Capgemini**.
- The app will be linked with the Delhi Police's database of missing children.
- The app will use **Amazon Web Services** based on face recognition technology to match the photographs of missing children with a database to give result after face matching.

Indian Railways installed plastic bottle crushers at 4 stations:

- The **South Central Railway** has installed plastic bottle crushers at Telangana's **Kachiguda, Secunderabad, and Nizamabad**, and Andhra Pradesh's **Vijayawada** stations in order to promote environmental protection.
- The machines can crush up to **5,000** bottles a day.
- The crushed plastic pieces can be reused to make bags or t-shirts.
- At **Vadodara** railway station, the railway authorities have set up bottle crushers, by which Passengers earn up to **Rs 5** by feeding the machine with a plastic bottle.

Union Government launches new scheme "SevaBhojYojna":

- This scheme is launched for financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20 with a total outlay of **Rs. 325.00 crores**.
- It seeks to reimburse the central share of CGST and IGST on items for food/Prasad/langar/Bhandara offered free of cost by charitable religious institutions.

Madhya Pradesh announced Outstanding “Power Bill Waiver Scheme”:

- The state cabinet headed by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan approved the **Bijli Bill Mafi Yojana 2018** (Power Bill Waiver Scheme) which is expected to benefit about 77 lakhs people of the state.
- Laborers falling under the **unorganized sector** in Madhya Pradesh will get power supply at a subsidized rate.
- The state cabinet also approved Mukhyamantri Jan Kalyan (Sambal) Yojana 2018 (a scheme to provide subsidized power) in the meeting.

BANKING & FINANCE NEWS:

India and World Bank Signs \$500 Million Additional Financing For PMGSY:

- The **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana** (PMGSY) Rural Roads Project, implemented by Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India, will build 7,000 km of climate resilient roads, out of which 3,500 km will be constructed using green technologies.

State Bank of India Hiked Interest Rate On Fixed Deposits:

- The interest rate on SBI FDs with a maturity of **one year to less than two years** has been increased to 6.65% for the public, from 6.4% earlier.
 - Senior citizens will get an interest rate of 7.15% as compared to 6.9% earlier.

- SBI fixed deposits with a maturity of **two years to less than three years** will fetch an interest rate of 6.65%, higher than 6.6% earlier.
 - Senior citizens will get 7.15% as compared to 7.10%.

RBI eased norms for Foreign Portfolio Investors to invest in debt, individual large businesses:

- The RBI increased the FPIs cap on investment in government security to **30 percent** of the outstanding stock of that security, from 20 per cent earlier.
- The move is aimed at attracting more overseas flows.
- FPIs are allowed to invest in various debt market instruments such as government bonds, treasury bills, state development loans and corporate bonds, but with certain limits and restrictions.
- The move will also help arrest the spike in call money rates after the June 6 rate hike by the central bank.

World Bank approves \$700 mn to improve primary education in Bangladesh:

- It will also finance implementation of the government's Fourth Primary Education Development Program (PEDP4).
- This project will build about **95,000** classrooms, teachers rooms, and multipurpose rooms.
- It will also build 80,000 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) blocks and 15,000 safe water sources.
- The projects will provide recruitment to about 100,000 teachers.

Government panel selects 22 general managers for Executive Director post at PSU Banks:

- The **Banks Board Bureau** (BBB) has recommended 22 candidates from different banks for the Executive Director (ED) positions in PSU Banks.

- The four general managers from PNB includes
 - Manas R Biswal,
 - Gopal Gusain,
 - Vivek Jha and
 - Alok Shrivastava.
- The two GM from Union Bank of India are
 - PR Rajagopal and
 - Shenoy Vittal.
- The two GMs from Bank of India are
 - Ajay Kumar Azad and
 - Dinesh Kumar Garg.
- Two GMs from Canara Bank are
 - Hemant Tamta and
 - Ajit Kumar Das.

AWARDS:

Yuvraj Singh Awarded 'Most Inspiring Icon Of The Year For Social Welfare':

- He was awarded by award by the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (**DIFF**) for his exemplary contribution in the field of social welfare.
- Yuvraj was diagnosed with cancer (mediastinal seminoma) shortly after the World Cup.
- After successfully completing his chemotherapy cycle in the United States, Yuvraj returned to India in 2012 and made his international comeback in a Twenty20 match against New Zealand.

Kendrick Lamar Receives Pulitzer Prize In Music:

- Kendrick Lamar received the Pulitzer Prize in music for his album “**Damn.**”
- Lamar is the first rapper in history to be given the award.

Kailash Satyarthi and ISRO Chief Gets 'Santokbaa Humanitarian' Award:

- President Ram Nath Kovind presented the 'Santokbaa Humanitarian Award' to Child rights activist and Noble Laureate **Kailash Satyarthi** and space scientist **A S Kiran Kumar**, Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in Surat, Gujarat.
- The award was instituted by Shree Ramkrishna Knowledge Foundation (SRKKF) and led by diamond baron Govind Dholakia.
- The award includes a trophy and a prize money of Rs 1 crore each to the awardees.

Meghana becomes 1st woman IAF fighter pilot from South India:

- Flying Officer Meghana Shanbogh MR from **Karnataka** has become the first woman Indian Air Force fighter pilot from south India.
- Before her, only five other female fighter pilots have joined the ranks.
- She graduates from the Air Force Academy (AFA) in Dundigal.

Anukreethy Vas From Tamil Nadu Crowned 2018 Femina Miss India:

- Anukreethy Vas, a 19-year-old Tamil Nadu college student, has been crowned Femina Miss India 2018 in a grand ceremony in

Mumbai hosted by filmmaker Karan Johar and actor Ayushmann Kurrana.

- Anukreethy Vas was previously crowned fbb Colours Femina Miss Tamil Nadu.
- **Meenakshi Chaudhary** from Haryana was the first runner-up.
- **Shreya Rao Kamavarapu** from Andhra Pradesh secured the second runner-up position.
- Anukreethy Vas will now represent India at **Miss World 2018**.

Rajasthan CM Vasundhara Raje conferred with “Chief Minister of the Year” award:

- The award was given at the **52nd Skoch Summit** held in **New Delhi**.
- Union Steel Minister Chaudhary Birender Singh was the chief guest at the function.
- Efforts of the chief minister and state government were appreciated in implementing the prime minister’s “**Digital India**” campaign for benefitting the common man.

Pallavi Durua crowned as first Tribal Queen in India:

- Pallavi Durua, who belongs to **Odisha's Koraput** district, was crowned as the first "Tribal Queen" at the Adi Rani Kalinga Tribal Queen competition held at Utkal Mandap.
- The prime objective of the event was to promote tribal art and culture.

Oscar Academy invites 20 Bollywood stars including Shah Rukh Khan, Madhuri Dixit:

- The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Oscar Academy has invited 928 new members this year, and 20 people on the list are from Bollywood.
- The 20 Bollywood stars that are invited are;
 - Actors -
 - Shah Rukh Khan,
 - Madhuri Dixit Nene,
 - Madhabi Mukherjee,
 - Soumitra Chatterjee,
 - Naseeruddin Shah,
 - Ali Fazal,
 - Anil Kapoor and
 - Tabu
 - Indian producers - Aditya Chopra and Guneet Monga,
 - Cinematographer - Anil Mehta,
 - Costume designers - Dolly Ahluwalia and Manish Malhotra,
 - Sound designers - Debajit Changmai and Biswadeep Chatterjee,
 - Production designers - Subrata Chakraborty and Amit Ray,
 - Music composers - Usha Khanna and Sneha Khanwalkar and
 - Film editor - Ballu Saluja

Kalki Koechlin will be conferred with French honour:

- For contribution in enhancing **Indo-French ties in cinema**, Actor Kalki Koechlin will be conferred with the French distinction of Knight of the **Order of Arts and Letters** (Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres).

World Food Prize 2018 awarded to Economist Lawrence Haddad, Dr. David Nabarro:

- **Lawrence Haddad**, who is a British economist and food policy researcher, and Dr. **David Nabarro**, who has worked with the World Health Organization and United Nations on health and hunger issues, were named the 2018 World Food Prize recipients.
- They dedicated their careers to improving the availability of **nutritious food for pregnant women and children** in an effort to reduce the effects of malnutrition in developing countries.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATION:

Giuseppe Conte Sworn in as Italian PM:

- The 53-year-old was sworn in alongside his cabinet, which will see M5S leader Luigi Di Maio and League chief Matteo Salvini in key ministerial posts.

Former World Bank Economist Omar al-Razzaz was sworn in as Prime Minister of Jordan:

- Former World Bank Economist Omar al-Razzaz was sworn in as Jordan's Prime Minister after King Abdullah issued a decree approving the new government.
- Jordan's King Abdullah mandated to review a disputed tax system after widespread protests against IMF-driven austerity measures

Prime Minister of Georgia Giorgi Kvirikashvili resigns after mass protests:

- Giorgi Kvirikashvili (50), has been the Georgia's Prime Minister since 2015.
- He has announced his resignation amid a disagreement with Bidzina Ivanishvili, the leader of the ruling party.
- Under the Georgian constitution, a Prime Minister's resignation leads to the resignation of the entire cabinet.

Government appointed Arijit Basu as new Managing Director of SBI:

- He will fill the position that fell vacant following the elevation of **Rajnish Kumar** as the chairman.
- Executive committee of the central board approved appointment of **Anil Kishore** as deputy managing director and chief risk officer of the bank for a period up to May, 2020.

Recep Tayyip Erdogan re elected as the Turkish President:

- Recep Tayyip Erdogan had won a 52.54% share of the national vote and re-elected as the Turkish President, extending his **15-year** grip on power.
- Erdogan has won several consecutive elections to become Turkey's longest-serving leader.

MS Dhoni signed as the first brand ambassador of Sumadhura Group:

- Sumadhura Group, one of South India's city-based realty majors, has roped in MS Dhoni as its first brand ambassador to represent

the brand in all their national campaigns, in a multi-year engagement.

Yousaf Saleem sworn in as Pakistan's first visually impaired judge:

- **Yousaf Saleem**, 25-year-old, a visually impaired lawyer, became the **first blind judge** in the history of **Pakistan**.
- His sister is reportedly Pakistan's first visually impaired civil servant.

National Security Adviser of Pakistan, Nasser Janjua resigns:

- Janjua was appointed as NSA in October **2015** by the then prime minister Nawaz Sharif, replacing Sartaj Aziz.
- Before being appointed as the NSA, Janjua was heading the Southern Command in Balochistan.
- Janjua was the **second** military official to hold the post after Major General (retd.) Mehmood Durrani who was NSA during an earlier Pakistan Peoples' Party government.

S Ramesh appointed as chairman of CBIC:

- Senior bureaucrat S Ramesh has been appointed as chairman of the **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**, the apex policy-making body for indirect taxes.
- He will succeed **Vanaja N Sarna**, who superannuates on June 30.
- Sarna was appointed as chief of the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), which has now been rechristened as the CBIC, in March last year.

Kanwaljeet Jawa becomes 1st Indian to be appointed as board member of Daikin:

- **Japanese** air-conditioner maker **Daikin** Industries Ltd has appointed it's India operations MD & CEO **Kanwaljeet Jawa** into the board of the parent company.
- Jawa joined Daikin India in 2010 as the COO and later became the MD & CEO who transformed an engineering company to a full scale HVAC organisation.

ICICI names ex IAS Girish Chaturvedi as part time Chairman:

- **ICICI** Bank appointed retired **IAS officer** and former petroleum secretary **Girish Chandra Chaturvedi** as part-time non-executive Chairman and independent Director on the bank's Board, from July 1 for **three years**.
- Chaturvedi will replace current Chairman MK Sharma after his term ends on June 30.

Person	Appointed/ Resigned as	Institution	Points to be noted
A.R. Rahman	Appointed as Brand Ambassador	Sikkim govt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● He was appointed at the onset of 'The Red Panda Winter Carnival 2018', which aimed at increasing the flow of tourists. ● Earlier in 2018, Sikkim government had made Mr. A.R. Rahman its Brand Ambassador of tourism and business.

Ivan Duque	Became President	Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He received 54% of the vote in run-off election. • His running mate, Marta Lucia Ramirez, will become Colombia's first female vice-president.
Sandeep Bakhshi	Appointed as Interim CEO	ICICI Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICICI Bank is reportedly planning to appoint Sandeep Bakhshi, CEO of ICICI Prudential Life, as the bank's interim CEO, replacing Chanda Kochhar. • The ICICI bank may ask Chanda Kochhar to go on leave until an internal investigation into conflict of interest allegations against her is completed.
Mehbooba Mufti	Resigns as Chief Minister	Jammu and Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mehbooba Mufti resigned as Jammu and Kashmir's chief minister, after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) ended its alliance with her Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), potentially pushing the state towards Governor's rule. <p>She handed over her resignation to Governor NN Vohra.</p>
Pradeep Parameswaran	Appointed as new President	Uber India and South Asia	This comes after Amit Jain was elevated to head the Asia Pacific region for Uber in May this year.
B Sriram	Appointed as CEO and MD	IDBI Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He has been appointed in place of Mahesh Kumar Jain who was recently made the Deputy Governor of RBI. • Sriram currently manages SBI's corporate banking division, which has a loan

			book exceeding ₹10 lakh crore.
Arvind Subramanian	Resigned from the post of Chief Economic Advisor	Finance ministry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Subramanian took charge as the CEA on October 16, 2014 for a period of three years. In 2017, his term was extended for a year. ● He launched the Government's online education platform "Swayam", which became one of the most followed courses in India.

DEFENCE NEWS:

India to Host 1st BIMSTEC Military Exercise:

- India will host first military exercise of the BIMSTEC Countries in **September 2018 in Pune, Maharashtra.**
- The main aim of this military exercise is to promote strategic alignment among the member-states and to share best practices in the area of counter-terrorism.
- Each participating member country will bring in some 30 soldiers.
- BIMSTEC countries had held disaster management exercise in 2017 in New Delhi, but this will be the first military exercise of the grouping.

India gifted a Dornier aircraft to Seychelles:

- India gifted Seychelles a **Dornier** aircraft this month -- second such aircraft that could be gifted to the Indian Ocean Region.

ICGS Rani Rashmoni ship was commissioned at Vizag:

- Additional Director General of the Coast Guard **VSR Murthy** commissioned the last of the five Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) project of Indian Coast Guard, ICGS ‘**Rani Rashmoni**’, in Visakhapatnam.
- So far four such ships namely,
 - ICGS Rani Abbakka,
 - ICGS Rani Avanti Bai,
 - ICGS Rani Durgavati and
 - ICGS Rani Gaidinliu,

have been commissioned and are in active service at various locations on the eastern seaboard.

U.S. and South Korea agree to suspend joint military exercise scheduled for August:

- South Korea and the United States have agreed to suspend all planning activities regarding the military drill named "**Freedom Guardian**" scheduled for August, 2018.
- The exercise is mostly focused on computerized simulations rather than live field exercises that use weapons, tanks or aircraft.

India to sign 3,400 crore rupees deal with Israel:

- India is set to sign a ₹3,400-crore (\$500 million) deal with **Israel** for the purchase of around **4,500 Spike missiles** for the Indian Army.
- Spike is a **fourth**-generation man-portable fire-and-forget anti-tank guided missile designed by Israeli company Rafael Advanced Defense Systems.

World's Largest Multilateral Naval Exercise RIMPAC begun off Hawaii:

- **26th edition** of two month long exercise **Rim of the Pacific** (RIMPAC) begun off **Hawaii** in the Western Pacific Ocean.
- Navies of 26 countries including India is participating in this exercise, which is scheduled off Hawaii from June 27 to August 27.
- **INS Sahyadri**, Commanded by Captain Shantanu Jha, has reached the Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, to participate in RIMPAC 2018.
- Subsequently, the 25th edition of the exercise was attended by INS Satpura in 2016.

Indian, Indonesian navies participated in PASSEX 2018:

- Indian Naval ships **INS Shakti** and **INS Kamorta** under the command of Rear Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet, undertook **Passage Exercise** (PASSEX) with **Indonesian Naval Ship KRI Madidihang** (855) a Stingrays Class Fast Patrol Craft on leaving the Port of Makassar, Indonesia.
- During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Indonesia last month, the two countries decided to enhance their maritime cooperation.

SPORTS NEWS:

Mithali Became First Indian to Score 2,000 T20I Runs:

- Indian cricketer Mithali Raj become the first batter from the country to score 2,000 runs in T20I cricket.

- She achieved the feat during India's Women's T20 Asia Cup match against **Sri Lanka** in Kuala Lumpur.
- Mithali has now scored **2015** runs in 74 T20Is with the help of 14 half centuries.
- Mithali is the seventh woman batter to score 2,000 runs in T20Is, a list which is topped by Charlotte Edwards (2,605), followed by Stafanie Taylor (2,582) and Suzie Bates (2,515).
- When it comes to men's T20I, the list is led by Martin Guptill (2271) followed by Brendon McCullum (2140) and Virat Kohli (1983).

Tennis Player Roger Federer returns to No.1 ranking after winning his 98th career singles title:

- Twenty-time Grand Slam champion Roger Federer clinched his 98th career singles title by defeating **Milos Raonic** in the Stuttgart Open final and reached the world number one ranking.
- Now **Rafael Nadal** is in World No:2 ranking.
- Roger Federer is 36 years old, born at Basel, Switzerland.

England registered new ODI record score of 481 against Australia:

- **England** registered the highest-ever ODI total (481/6) in men's cricket history and defeated **Australia** by 242 runs to take an unassailable 3-0 lead in the five-match series.
- The 242-run defeat was Australia's heaviest-ever in ODIs.
- With this, England beaten their own previous best of 444 runs which they registered against Pakistan in 2016 at the same venue.

England Women made the highest total in Twenty20 international:

- England Women registered the highest-ever total in women's T20I cricket history by scoring **250/3** against **South Africa Women** in a T20I tri-series match.

Kidambi Srikanth wins "Sportsperson Of The Year award":

- The Commonwealth Games 2018 gold-medal winning **shuttler Kidambi Srikanth**, was adjudged as the "**Sportsperson of the Year for 2017**" by the Sports Illustrated India magazine.
- Here are the award categories in which the athletes were felicitated:
 - **Team of the Year:** Women's Cricket Team
 - **Coach of the Year:** Stephen Constantine
 - **Young Sportsperson of the Year:** Manav Vikas Thakkar
 - **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Dhanraj Pillay
 - **Special Award Living Legend:** Balbir Singh Sr.

R Praggnanandhaa has become the second youngest Grandmaster in chess history:

- Soon after Chennai's R Praggnanandhaa completed his third norm - beating Italian Grandmaster Luca Moroni in the eighth round of the Gredine Open at Ortisei in Italy, he has become the **second youngest Grandmaster** in chess history at the age of 12 years, 10 months, 13 days.
- The youngest Grandmaster ever is Russia's Sergey Karjakin, who achieved the feat aged 12 years, 7 months and has held the record since 2002.

Sandeep Sejwal grabbed gold at Singapore National Swimming Championships:

- Indian swimmer Sandeep Sejwal clinched the **gold** medal in men's **50m** breaststroke event at the Singapore National Swimming Championships held in **Singapore**.
- **Virdhawal Khade** grabbed a creditable **silver** medal in the 50m freestyle event with a timing of 22.68 seconds even as compatriot Aaron Agnel Dsouza crashed out in the semifinals.

Deepika Kumari won individual recurve gold at Salt Lake World Cup:

- Archer Deepika Kumari won her first **individual** gold medal in six years at the Salt Lake World Cup following a 7-3 win over Germany's Michelle Kroppen in the **recurve** final.
- **Abhishek Verma** had won an **individual silver** in the Compound category and was part of the mixed team bronze winning side alongside Jyothi Surekha Vennam.

US sprinter Noah Lyles runs fastest 100m of 2018 in 9.88 seconds:

- 20-year-old American sprinter **Noah Lyles** ran the fastest 100-metre race of the year to clinch the US national title in Des Moines, Iowa.
- He clocked 9.88 seconds in the final, after equalling Mike Rodgers' world-leading time of 2018 of 9.89 seconds in the semi-finals.

Lewis Hamilton wins French Grand Prix:

- He regained his position at the **top** of the **Formula One** world championship.

- Hamilton, who had started on pole position, now leads Vettel by 14 points after eight of 21 races. The Briton has 145 and German 131.
- He had shared the record of 22 with retired seven-times world champion **Michael Schumacher**.

Saurabh wins gold medal with world record score at ISSF Junior World Cup:

- Sixteen-year-old Indian shooter **Saurabh Chaudhary** set a new world record and won a gold in the **10m air pistol** event in the ISSF Junior World Cup in Germany.
- He got **243.7** points in the final.
- The junior world record before this was 242.5 by Chinese shooter Wang Zhehao at the first ISSF Junior World Cup of the year in Sydney.
- The other Indian in the final, Anmol Jain, fell short of the podium, finishing fourth with 199.6.

Indian shooter Manu sets world record, wins 8th gold of year:

- 16-year-old **Manu Bhaker** won gold medal in **10m air pistol** event at ISSF Junior World Cup in Germany.
- This was Manu's seventh ISSF individual gold in the year, **third** with a **world** record.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY:

Russia Launched Soyuz 2.1b Carrier Rocket With Glonass-M Navigation Satellite:

- GLONASS - the Russian acronym for 'Global Navigation Satellite System'.

- The Glonass network provides real-time positioning data for surface, sea and airborne objects around the globe, at an accuracy reportedly on par with the U.S. Global Positioning System (GPS).
- With this Launch, there are now 26 Glonass satellites in orbit.

US scientists unveiled world's most powerful and smartest scientific supercomputer:

- US scientists have unveiled the world's most powerful and smartest scientific supercomputer named "**Summit**" that can complete over 200,000 trillion calculations per second.
- This supercomputer called Summit will be eight times more powerful than its previous top-ranked system, **Titan**.

Instagram launched 0.5 MB Lite app for Android devices:

- At just **573 kilobytes**, "**Instagram Lite**" app is 1/55th the size of Instagram's 32 megabyte main app.
- This app is currently being tested in **Mexico**.
- Users can filter and post photos to the feed or Stories, and browse the Explore page, but cannot share videos or Direct message friends yet.

NASA To Launch World's Lightest Satellite Designed By Chennai Students:

- The first-year engineering students Harikrishan, Amarnath, Sudhi and Giri Prasad from Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science near Chennai built the **4cm** 'cube' satellite '**Jaihind-1S**' with a 3D printed outer casing from polylactic acid (PLA) nylon material, making it lighter than a medium sized egg, at just **33.39 grams**.

- This satellite will be launched from a NASA facility in the US by August.
- The previous lightweight satellite developed by Rifath Sharook, also from Tamil Nadu, and launched in the same competition in 2017 had weighed 64 grams.

VISITS

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj visited 4 European Nations:

- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj left for a seven-day tour (from June 17-23) of **Italy, France, Luxembourg and Belgium**, which is aimed at deepening India's strategic engagement and trade ties with the four European countries.
- India and France are celebrating the **20th** anniversary of their Strategic Partnership.
- President of the European Commission - **Jean-Claude Juncker**
- President of the European Parliament - **Antonio Tajani**

Seychelles President Danny Faure arrived in India for a six-day visit on June 22:

- Indian government had given Seychelles **\$100 million** on credit for the **defence** sector.
- India and Seychelles signed **six** memorandums of understanding (MoUs). Details of the six agreements are yet to be disclosed.

Prince William becomes first British royal to visit Israel and Palestine:

- UK's Prince William became the first member of the royal family to visit Israel officially.
- Prince William met Holocaust survivors, Israeli President Reuven Rivlin and PM Benjamin Netanyahu as part of his three-day visit.
- Prince William will also meet Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas which will mark the first royal visit to the West Bank.

US Ambassador to UN Nikki Haley visited India to Boost India US Ties:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations, **Nikki Haley**, discussed ways to enhance India-US cooperation in various fields, including counter-terrorism.
- "Freedom of religion is as important as freedom of rights and freedom of people", the US envoy to the United Nations Nikki Haley said on the first day of her India visit.
- Nikki Haley visited India in late **2014** when she was the South Carolina Governor.
- Ms Haley, the daughter of Sikh immigrants from **Punjab**, is the **first Indian-American** to serve in a Cabinet level position in any US presidential administration.

SURVEY/LISTS:

India is the Most Dangerous Country For Women, US In 10 Worst:

- According to the Thomson Reuters Foundation survey on women's issues, **India** is the world's most dangerous country for women due to the high risk of sexual violence and being forced into slave labour.
- The list of the 10 countries ranked as the most dangerous for women by the survey, conducted between March 26 and May 4:-
 - 1. India
 - 2. Afghanistan
 - 3. Syria
 - 4. Somalia
 - 5. Saudi Arabia
 - 6. Pakistan
 - 7. Democratic Republic of Congo
 - 8. Yemen
 - 9. Nigeria
 - 10. United States

London is the most desirable city in the world for overseas workers:

- According to a survey conducted by the Boston Consulting Group and totaljobs.com. London beat New York, Berlin and Barcelona to take the top spot as the most desirable city in the world for overseas workers.

- Meanwhile, the UK overall has dropped three places in the country rankings, falling from second in 2014 to fifth.

Indian real estate transparency ranked 35th globally:

- India has emerged as one of the top 10 countries to have registered maximum improvement in transparency in real estate over last two years, showed JLL's **Global Real Estate Transparency Index (GRETI) 2018**.
- According to the survey, **UK** is at the top position followed by Australia and the US. France, Canada, Netherlands, New Zealand, Germany, Ireland and Sweden are in top 10 in the list of 100 countries.
- Venezuela is the least transparent market with 100th rank.

Mumbai is India's most expensive city, Hong Kong named World's most expensive city:

- According to Mercer's 24th annual Cost of Living Survey, Mumbai is India's most expensive city, followed by **New Delhi and Chennai**.
- Kolkata and Bengaluru are the least expensive Indian cities ranked.
- Mercer's survey reveals that **Hong Kong** took the top spot as the world's most expensive city for expatriates.
- Tokyo and Zurich are in second and third positions, respectively, with Singapore in fourth.

Bengaluru ranked world's 2nd best location to launch tech startups:

- According to research firm SmallBusinessPrices.co.uk, Bengaluru has claimed the second spot in the list of best locations for launching tech startups.
- The **first place** was secured by **Boulder** city in the **US** while the third best location was **Johannesburg** in South Africa.
- The research measured the average internet speed, the average business valuation, and cost of living, among other metrics.

OBITUARY:

Former Himachal Pradesh Governor Urmila Singh Passed Away:

- Belonging to a family of freedom fighters, Singh was appointed as the governor of Himachal Pradesh in **2010**.
- Prior to that, she had served as the chairman of the National Scheduled Tribes Commission (NCTC).

IMPORTANT DAYS:

Observed Date	Day	Points to be Noted
20 th June	World Refugee Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The theme for World Refugee Day 2018 is 'Now More Than Ever, We Need to Stand with Refugees'. ● World Refugee Day was established by the United Nations on December 4, 2000.

<p>21st June</p>	<p>International Yoga Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This year, 4th International Yoga Day is celebrated across the world on June 21. • 800 differently-abled persons from across the country attempted Guinness World Record in Ahmedabad for 'Largest Silent Yoga Class' on International Yoga Day 2018. • The theme for Yoga Day 2018 is "Yoga for Peace."
<p>21st June</p>	<p>World Music Day 2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The day is also known as Fete de la Musique after a music festival that began in France in 1982. • To mark the day, around 150 artists from over 16 countries, including France, USA, Nepal, Spain, Italy, Thailand and India, will be performing at multiple venues across the city of Udaipur this year.
<p>26th June</p>	<p>International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The General Assembly of United Nations has decided to observe 26 June as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. • It is to express its determination to strengthen action and cooperation to achieve the goal of an international society free of drug abuse. • The theme for 2018 is "Listen First - Listening to children and youth is the first step to help them grow healthy and safe."

BOOKS & AUTHORS:

Book Name	Author	Released by	Other information
Vedvigyan Alok	Acharya Agnivarat Naishthik	Vice President of India Venkaiah Naidu	The Book Vedvigyan Alok is the scriptural verse in Vedas' prose.

QUIZ CORNER:

1) Which country ranked 113th on Childhood Index recently?

- A. India
- B. Iran
- C. Iraq
- D. Saudi Arabia

Answer:- A

2) Which country successfully test fires SFDR Propulsion based Missile?

- A. Pakistan
- B. Finland
- C. India
- D. Scotland

Answer:- C

3) Which day is observed on 3rd June?

- A. World Bicycle Day**
- B. World Heart Day**
- C. World organ Day**
- D. World Music Day**

Answer:- A

4) Which day is observed as World Environment Day?

- A. July 10**
- B. June 5**
- C. March 10**
- D. May 20**

Answer:- B

5) Which country records 22% reduction in Maternal Mortality Ratio since 2013?

- A. Pakistan**
- B. Saudi Arabia**
- C. Indonesia**
- D. India**

Answer:- D

6) World Oceans Day is observed on

- A. June 8**

- B. July 15**
- C. March 16**
- D. May 28**

Answer:- A

7) President Ram Nath Kovind left for a 3 nation visit to Greece, Suriname and

- A. Cuba**
- B. Nigeria**
- C. Argentina**
- D. Norway**

Answer:- A

8) Former World Bank Economist Omar al-Razzaz was sworn in as Prime Minister of

- A. Norway**
- B. Oman**
- C. Israel**
- D. Jordan**

Answer:- D

9) Recently, Union Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurated three 100 MW solar power projects in which state?

- A. Uttar Pradesh**
- B. Gujarat**
- C. Telangana**



D. Tamil Nadu

Answer:- D

10) Which of the following bank has been ranked as the 5th biggest public company globally in the 'consumer financial services category' on a list compiled by Forbes magazine?

- A. HDFC Bank**
- B. ICICI Bank**
- C. Yes Bank**
- D. IndusInd Bank**

Answer:- A

11) Flying Officer Meghana Shanbough MR has become the first woman Indian Air Force fighter pilot from South India. She belongs to which of the following state?

- A. Andhra Pradesh**
- B. Telangana**
- C. Karnataka**
- D. Kerala**

Answer:- C

12) How many states signed MoU for implementing Ayushman Bharat NHP Mission?

- A. 20**
- B. 18**
- C. 16**



D. 25

Answer:- A

13) Which of the following company was honored with Japan's Nikkei Asia Prize?

- A. Ashok Leyland**
- B. Reliance Industries**
- C. Larsen and Toubro Company**
- D. Sulabh Company**

Answer:- D

14) Recently, India has agreed to open four new air entry points to

- A. Nepal**
- B. China**
- C. Bangladesh**
- D. Pakistan**

Answer:- A

15) India is planning to gift a Dornier aircraft to

- A. Germany**
- B. Iran**
- C. France**
- D. Seychelles**

Answer:- D

16) India and France are celebrating the ____ anniversary of their Strategic Partnership.

- A. 13th**
- B. 15th**
- C. 20th**
- D. 19th**

Answer:- C

17) After Delhi Assembly passed the resolution for full statehood, which of the following Union Territory demanded full statehood, recently?

- A. Chandigarh**
- B. Puducherry**
- C. Lakshadweep**
- D. Daman and Diu**

Answer:- B

18) Since the rollout of Transport Mission Mode Project (MMP), States have collected taxes worth

- A. ₹10,000 crore**
- B. ₹30,000 crore**
- C. ₹20,000 crore**
- D. ₹15,000 crore**

Answer:- A



19) Which of the following Tennis player clinched his 98th career singles title by defeating Milos Raonic in the Stuttgart Open final and reached the World N0:1 ranking, recently?

- A. Roger Federer**
- B. Rafael Nadal**
- C. Grigor Dimitrov**
- D. Novak Djokovic**

Answer:- A

20) RBI increased the FPIs cap on investment in government security to

- A. 40 percent**
- B. 20 percent**
- C. 30 percent**
- D. 10 percent**

Answer:- C

21) Indian Government will team up with which of the following company for flood forecasting in India?

- A. Bing**
- B. Google**
- C. InfoSpace**
- D. Yahoo**

Answer:- B

22) Which country recently launched a Soyuz-2.1b carrier rocket to orbit a Glonass-M satellite?

- A. Russia**
- B. Canada**
- C. Germany**
- D. Italy**

Answer:- A

23) The last of the five Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) project of Indian Coast Guard, ICGS 'Rani Rashmoni' ship was commissioned at

- A. Kandla**
- B. Cochin**
- C. Kolkata**
- D. Visakhapatnam**

Answer:- D

24) How much dollar has been approved by World Bank for improving primary education in Bangladesh?

- A. \$500 million**
- B. \$700 million**
- C. \$600 million**
- D. \$800 million**

Answer:- B

25) Recently, Ivan Duque wins election to become the President of
A. Nigeria

B. Colombia

C. Serbia

D. Algeria

Answer:- B

26) Who will be appointed as Interim CEO of ICICI Bank, replacing Chanda Kochhar?

A. Uday Chitale

B. Vijay Chandok

C. Sandeep Bakhshi

D. Anup Bagchi

Answer:- C

27) President Ram Nath Kovind reported that India is striving to become a \$5 trillion economy and the world's third largest consumer market by

A. 2030

B. 2021

C. 2020

D. 2025

Answer:- D

28) Who is the only Indian Investor in Xiaomi?

A. Lakshmi Mittal

B. Mukesh Ambani

C. Ratan Tata

D. Gautam Adani

Answer:- C

29) U.S suspended joint military exercise “Freedom Guardian” with which country?

A. South Korea

B. China

C. Russia

D. North Korea

Answer:- A

30) Three Day National Yoga Olympiad 2018 began in

A. Hyderabad

B. Mumbai

C. New Delhi

D. Kolkata

Answer:- C

31) England registered new ODI record score of 481 against

A. Zimbabwe

B. Australia

C. New Zealand

D. Pakistan

Answer:- B

32) Which nation withdrew from the United Nations Human Rights Council, recently?

- A. Germany**
- B. United States**
- C. Russia**
- D. Canada**

Answer:- B

33) Anukreethy Vas has been crowned Femina Miss India 2018. She belongs to which state?

- A. Andhra Pradesh**
- B. Kerala**
- C. Tamil Nadu**
- D. Maharashtra**

Answer:- C

34) England Women registered the highest-ever total in women's T20I cricket history by scoring 250/3 against

- A. Australia**
- B. India**
- C. New Zealand**
- D. South Africa**

Answer:- D

35) Which state has become the first in India to give star ranking to its villages?

- A. Haryana**
- B. Assam**
- C. Punjab**
- D. Gujarat**

Answer:- A

36) Which city has been selected as the 100th city to receive funding under the Central Government's flagship "Smart Cities Mission"?

- A. Varanasi**
- B. Indore**
- C. Shillong**
- D. Mangalore**

Answer:- C

37) On 4th International Yoga Day, 800 differently-abled persons from across the country attempted Guinness World Record in

- A. Hyderabad**
- B. Mumbai**
- C. Ahmedabad**
- D. Delhi**

Answer:- C

38) This Year, 4th International Yoga Day is observed across the world on

- A. June 20**
- B. June 21**

C. June 25

D. June 30

Answer:- B

39) Which state government appoints A.R. Rahman as its Brand Ambassador?

A. Telangana

B. Bihar

C. Sikkim

D. Tamil Nadu

Answer:- C

40) Under 'India Smart Cities Award' 2018, Joint winners in 'Innovative Idea' category were Bhopal and

A. Ahmedabad

B. Jabalpur

C. Chennai

D. Pune

Answer:- A

41) The world's first "International Centre for Humanitarian Forensics (ICHF)" was launched in

A. Gujarat

B. New Delhi

C. Andhra Pradesh

D. Maharashtra



Answer:- A

42) To mark “World Music Day 2018”, around 150 artists from over 16 countries performed at multiple venues across the city of

- A. Mumbai**
- B. Udaipur**
- C. Ahmedabad**
- D. Bhubaneswar**

Answer:- B

43) Who wins “Sportsperson Of The Year award for 2017” by the Sports Illustrated India magazine?

- A. Yuki Bhambri**
- B. Manav Vikas Thakkar**
- C. Kidambi Srikanth**
- D. Virat Kohli**

Answer:- C

44) Government appointed Arijit Basu as new Managing Director of

- A. SBI**
- B. IDBI Bank**
- C. Canara Bank**
- D. Indian Bank**

Answer:- A

45) What is the cost of “Mohanpura irrigation project” in Madhya Pradesh's Rajgarh district?

- A. ₹2,466 crore
- B. ₹5,366 crore
- C. ₹3,866 crore
- D. ₹4,566 crore

Answer:- C

46) Southern Railways imposes penalty of _____ for taking selfie in front of train.

- A. ₹2,500
- B. ₹1,500
- C. ₹1,000
- D. ₹2,000

Answer:- D

47) For the development of tourism in Himachal Pradesh, the Centre has approved projects worth

- A. ₹1,500 crore
- B. ₹1,800 crore
- C. ₹1,700 crore
- D. ₹1,200 crore

Answer:- B

48) Saudi Arabia issued the first driving license to women on

- A. June 4**
- B. June 24**
- C. June 20**
- D. June 9**

Answer:- A

49) Which state makes use of LED bulbs mandatory in govt offices by 15 Aug?

- A. West Bengal**
- B. Uttar Pradesh**
- C. Bihar**
- D. Haryana**

Answer:- D

50) American sprinter Noah Lyles ran the fastest 100-metre race of the year 2018 in

- A. 8.48 seconds**
- B. 9.88 seconds**
- C. 7.86 seconds**
- D. 6.84 seconds**

Answer:- B

51) Recep Tayyip Erdogan was re-elected as the President of

- A. Iran**
- B. Armenia**
- C. Turkey**

D. Greece

Answer:- C

52) Who has been awarded as Best Actor in Indian International Film Awards (IIFA) 2018?

A. Irrfan Khan

B. Akshay Kumar

C. Ranbir Kapoor

D. Adil Hussain

Answer:- A

53) Who won Best Actress Award in Indian International Film Awards (IIFA), held in Bangkok?

A. Zaira Wasim

B. Alia Bhatt

C. Vidya

D. Sridevi

Answer:- D

54) Pallavi Durua crowned as India's first "Tribal Queen". She belongs to which state?

A. Karnataka

B. Gujarat

C. Kerala

D. Odisha

Answer:- D

55) How many Indians are invited to be members of Oscar academy, this year?

- A. 20**
- B. 10**
- C. 15**
- D. 5**

Answer:- A

56) Monsoon Session of Parliament to be held from

- A. July 18 to August 10**
- B. July 15 to August 10**
- C. July 18 to August 15**
- D. July 10 to August 5**

Answer:- A

57) Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) and Saudi Aramco have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to jointly develop and build an integrated refinery at

- A. Telangana**
- B. Kerala**
- C. Maharashtra**
- D. West Bengal**

Answer:- C

58) Gujarat Govt launches solar scheme “Suryashakti Kisan Yojna” at an estimated cost of

- A. Rs 520 crore**
- B. Rs 870 crore**
- C. Rs 710 crore**
- D. Rs 930 crore**

Answer:- B

59) Who won French Grand Prix 2018 Title?

- A. Max Verstappen**
- B. Valtteri Bottas**
- C. Lewis Hamilton**
- D. Sebastian Vettel**

Answer:- C

60) How much dollar had given to Seychelles by Indian government on credit for the defence sector?

- A. \$90 million**
- B. \$100 million**
- C. \$70 million**
- D. \$50 million**

Answer:- B

61) Who has been conferred with “Chief Minister of the Year” award?

- A. Shivraj Singh Chouhan**
- B. Mamata Banerjee**
- C. Vasundhara Raje**
- D. Jairam Thakur**

Answer:- C

62) Who officially declared himself as the leader of the world's first space nation 'Asgardia'?

- A. Igor Ashurbeyli**
- B. Mikhail Spokoiny**
- C. Lena De Winne**
- D. Alesya Fedorova**

Answer:- A

63) Which of the following UK comedian criticised President Xi Jinping, on TV show “Last Week Tonight”?

- A. Mark Thomas**
- B. Tom Walker**
- C. Chris Morris**
- D. John Oliver**

Answer:- D

64) How many European Union member states agreed to establish a joint military force?

- A. Nine**
- B. Three**

- C. Five
- D. Ten

Answer:- A

65) Which country ranked top in the list of the World's most dangerous country for women, according to the Thomson Reuters Foundation survey on women's issues?

- A. Syria
- B. Afghanistan
- C. India
- D. Somalia

Answer:- C

66) What is the name of the mobile application launched by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, for delivering passports to applicants?

- A. mPassport Seva
- B. Quick Passport Seva
- C. Handy Passport Seva
- D. ePassport Seva

Answer:- A

67) For the purchase of around 4,500 Spike missiles, India is set to sign a ₹3,400-crore deal with

- A. Russia
- B. Israel



- C. France**
- D. Japan**

Answer:- B

68) Recently, Which country approves Brexit Bill, that will formally end the country's European Union membership?

- A. France**
- B. Italy**
- C. United Kingdom**
- D. Germany**

Answer:- C

69) Who won gold medal with world record score at ISSF Junior World Cup?

- A. Manu Bhaker**
- B. Devanshi Rana**
- C. Saurabh Chaudhary**
- D. Anmol Jain**

Answer:- C

70) Recently, Finance Ministry approves Metro Rail projects in 5 cities of Madhya Pradesh and

- A. Uttar Pradesh**
- B. Bihar**
- C. Haryana**
- D. West Bengal**



Answer:- A

71) President of India Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the Udyam Sangam-2018 in

- A. Mumbai**
- B. Kolkata**
- C. New Delhi**
- D. Hyderabad**

Answer:- C

72) The Odisha government decided to raise the health cover under “Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY)” for women from Rs. 5 lakh to

- A. Rs. 8 lakh**
- B. Rs. 7 lakh**
- C. Rs. 6 lakh**
- D. Rs. 9 lakh**

Answer:- B

73) Which of the following place is taken under Phase II of Swachh Bharat Mission?

- A. The Taj Mahal, Agra**
- B. Meenakshi Temple, Madurai**
- C. Golden Temple, Amritsar**
- D. Charminar, Hyderabad**



Answer:- D

74) World Food Prize 2018 is awarded to

- A. David Beckmann and Jo Luck**
- B. John Agyekum Kufuor and Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva**
- C. Daniel Hillel and Fazle Hasan Abed**
- D. Lawrence Haddad and David Nabarro**

Answer:- D

75) Which of the following Indian Navy ship is participating in RIMPAC 2018?

- A. INS Sahyadri**
- B. INS Astradharani**
- C. INS Satpura**
- D. INS Tihayu**

Answer:- A

76) Who has been appointed as chairman of CBIC?

- A. Devender Kumar Sikri**
- B. Sekhar Basu**
- C. Rajiv Jain**
- D. S Ramesh**

Answer:- D

77) Which country has been placed on 'Grey list' by Financial Action Task Force (FATF)?

- A. Syria**
- B. Pakistan**
- C. Iran**
- D. Iraq**

Answer:- B

78) In JLL's Global Real Estate Transparency Index (GRETI) 2018, which country is at the top position?

- A. UK**
- B. Australia**
- C. US**
- D. France**

Answer:- A

79) Which of the following Indian Naval Ship undertook Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with Indonesian Naval Ship?

- A. INS Aditya**
- B. INS Deepak**
- C. INS Jyoti**
- D. INS Shakti**

Answer:- D

80) According to Mercer's 24th annual "Cost of Living" Survey, most expensive city in India is

- A. Kolkata**
- B. New Delhi**

- C. Mumbai
- D. Chennai

Answer:- C

81) New proposed “Higher Education Commission of India (HECI)” will replace

- A. All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
- B. National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE)
- C. National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)
- D. University Grants Commission (UGC)

Answer:- D

82) Which Indian Shooter sets world record by winning 8th gold of year?

- A. Devanshi Rana
- B. Manu Bhaker
- C. Arjun Singh Cheema
- D. Abhishek Arya

Answer:- B

83) India will get “Black Money Data” from which bank by 2019?

- A. Bank of America
- B. HSBC Holdings
- C. Swiss Bank Corporation
- D. BNP Paribas

Answer:- C

84) Which country has announced a plan to reintroduce compulsory national service for all 16-year-olds in the country?

- A. France**
- B. Germany**
- C. Russia**
- D. India**

Answer:- A

85) Which Indian scheme will be the World's largest government funded health care programme?

- A. Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY)**
- B. Janani Suraksha Yojana**
- C. National Ayush Mission (NAM)**
- D. Ayushman Bharat programme**

Answer:- D

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