

# Abhyaas Newsboard...

For the quintessential test prep student

## Persons in News

- 1. Zuzana Caputova, a liberal environmental activist and a political newcomer, has been elected as the first female President of Slovakia. She framed the election as a struggle between good and evil. With 58% of the vote, Caputova edged out European Commission Vice President Maros Sefcovic, a diplomat backed by the county's governing Smer-Social Democracy party. She is set to take office on June 15, after the tenure of incumbent Slovak President Andrej Kiska finishes.
- 2. The UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed Nicholas Koumjian of the US as head of the Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar. Koumjian will be the first head of the Myanmar mechanism, which was established by the Human Rights Council on September 27, 2018.
- 3. Vikram Kirloskar, the CMD of Kirloskar Systems Ltd, has taken charge as the new President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). He succeeded Rakesh Bharti Mittal, Vice Chairman of Bharti Enterprises. Uday Kotak, the founder and MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank, is the President-Designate and T.V. Narendran, the CEO & MD of Tata Steel, is the Vice President for 2019-20.
- 4. Incumbent Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is set to win a record fifth term in the country's most closely-fought general election in years after his main rival conceded defeat. With more than 99 percent of votes counted, Netanyahu's Likud party is set to lead a right-wing bloc with 65 of the 120 seats in parliament. Netanyahu's key rival, Blue and White Party's Benny Gantz, accepted the result.
- 5. Gagandeep Kang has become first Indian woman scientists selected for Fellow of Royal Society (FRS), London. She is the first Indian woman scientist getting selected as FRS in 358 years of history of this prestigious scientific academy.
- 6. Former Indian Army Chief General (Retired) Dalbir Singh Suhag was on April 25, 2019 appointed as India's High Commissioner to the island nation Seychelles. Dalbir Singh was the Army Chief from August 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016. He was also part of the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) in Sri Lanka in 1987.
- 7. NASA astronaut Christina Koch is going to have her mission on the International Space Station (ISS) extended to 328 days. She would set a record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman. With this, she will eclipse the record of 288 days set by former NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson in 2016-17

#### 8. Important Obituaries:

- 1. Viharidas Gopaldas Patel Noted economist, also called Father of Entrepreneurship Movement in India.
- 2. Rama Sengupta Paul Noted Female mountaineer.
- 3. John Singleton Noted American Director. He earned an Oscar Nomination at age 24, becoming youngest to do so.
- 4. Mark Medoff Noted American Playwright. His notable work includes Tony Award-winning play Children of a Lesser God.
- 5. Former Ethiopian president Negasso Gidada Passed Away. He was first head of state after Ethiopia adopted a new constitution transforming it into a federal state.
- 9. Saurav Ghosal became first Indian male squash player to enter top 10 in Professional Squash Association (PSA) world rankings. 73-year-old Israeli Isaak Hayik set a new world record as world's oldest person to play in a professional soccer match. He played a match for FC Ironi Or Yehuda against FC Maccabi Ramat Gan.
- 10. Female Cricketer Mithali Raj named as goodwill ambassador of Indian team for Street Child Cricket World Cup 2019. This is first cricket world cup for street-connected children and final will be played at Lord's in London on May 7.



- 11. India's 21-time world snooker and billiards champion, Pankaj Advani defeated Ehsan Heydari Nezhad of Iran to win inaugural Asian Snooker Tour title, in Bengaluru. Services team won 2019 Santosh Trophy Football Title, defeating Punjab. This is sixth time Services has won Santosh Trophy.
- 12. Biography of Indian diplomat, and politician V K Krishna Menon, titled "Chequered Brilliance: The Many Lives of V K Krishna Menon" written by Former union minister and writer Jairam Ramesh has been released.
- 13. Former Pakistan Cricketer Shahid Afridi's biography named Game Changer, will be released on April 30, 2019. It has been written by Wajahat S Khan.
- 14. India edition of first biography of Apple CEO Tim Cook, 'Tim Cook: The Genius Who Took Apple to the Next Level', has been released.
- 15. Govt. constituted a steering committee headed by Environment Mnistry Secretary C K Mishra, to implement National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).
- 16. Central Works Public Department (CPWD) constituted committee to formulate a design policy for building construction and infrastructure development, under chairmanship of M K Sharma.

### Places in News

- 1. Japan on April 1, 2019 declared that 'Reiwa' would be name of the new imperial era to begin on May 1, when Crown Prince Naruhito ascends the Chrysanthemum Throne. He will succeed his father, Emperor Akihito, who is abdicating on April 30, ending the 31-year 'Heisei' era.
- 2. Estonia has emerged as a global leader in online voting with 44% of votes in the recently concluded parliamentary elections in the country. Centre-Right Reform Party emerged victorious with 40% of the e-votes and nearly 30% of the total vote.
- 3. Brunei introduced harsh new sharia laws that make adultery and homsexuality punishable by stoning to death. The new measures also cover a range of other crimes, including punishment for theft by amputation. The laws make Brunei the first in Southeast Asia to have a sharia penal code at the national level.
- 4. The Parliament of New Zealand on April 10, 2019 voted to ban all types of semi-automatic weapons and assault rifles following the Christchurch attacks. The bill was passed in the House of Representatives with the approval of 119 members, with just one member opposing it.
- 5. The Notre-Dame Cathedral in central Paris, France almost burned down in a devastating fire that began on April 15, 2019. The fire completely destroyed the spire of the iconic structure and two-thirds of its largely medieval roof. UNESCO experts have agreed to help in rebuilding the structure.
- 6. Sri Lanka on April 18, 2019 launched its first satellite 'Raavana-1' into space from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility on Virginia's East Shore. The satellite, which weighs around 1.05 kg, will have the lifespan of around one and a half years. The satellite was designed and built at the Kyushu Institute of Technology in Japan by two Sri Lankan research engineers.
- 7. Nepal has successfully launched its first satellite NepaliSat-1 into space from Virginia in the United States. The satellite was developed by the Nepalese scientists. NepaliSat-1 is a low orbit satellite. The launch of the satellite was initiated under the BIRDS project of the Japanese Kyushu Institute of Technology.
- 8. Malawi launched the world's first malaria vaccine in a landmark pilot programme. The country is the first of three in Africa in which the vaccine, known as RTS,S, will be made available to children up to 2 years of age; Ghana and Kenya will introduce the vaccine later.
- 9. Chennai Central railway station has been renamed by Tamil Nadu Government as Puratchi Thalaivar Dr MG Ramachandran Central Railway Station, after its late Chief Minister and founder of All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK). Guwahati Railway Station became first ever Indian railway station to get an ISO certification from National Green Tribunal (NGT) for providing passenger amenities in a clean and green environment. ISO Certificate received by Guwahati Railway Station is ISO-14001, which is for Environment Management System as per international norms which were upgraded in 2015.



- 10. Phayeng, a village of Chakpa community in Imphal West district of Manipur has been named as India's first carbon-positive settlement. It has been revived from dry village through determination of its residents and funding under National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC), a central scheme launched in 2015-16 to support adaptation for climate change impact in states.
- 11. "India secured Test Cricket Championship Mace for 3rd successive year, along with million dollar prize. New Zealand were 2nd, followed by South Africa were and Australia." Inaugural World Test Championship will begin in August 2019, featuring 9 Test nations competing across 27 series and 71 Test matches to reach ICC World Test Championship Final in 2021, where first World Test champions will be crowned."
- 12. Assam's Rongali Bihu Festival has began, also known as 'Bohag Bihu'. This festival is observed at almost same time as Baisakhi in Punjab, Poila Baisakh in Bengal, Puthandu in Tamil Nadu and Vishu in Kerala this year.

## **Events of Significance**

- 1. Indian space agency, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) on April 1, 2019 Jaunched the electronic intelligence satellite EMISAT along with 28 other satellites of global customers. Emisat was Jaunched into an altitude of 749 km orbit, while the 28 satellites were Jaunched at an altitude of 504 km orbit.
- 2. Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank became a part of the Bank of Baroda on April 1, 2019, leading to the creation of the India's second largest Public Sector Bank after the SBI and India's third largest lender overall after the SBI and ICICI Banks with a total business of more than Rs 14.82 lakh crore.
- 3. The Indian Army has successfully built the longest (260-feet long) suspension bridge 'Matiri Bridge' over the Indus River in the Leh-Ladakh region in record 40 days. Suspension Bridge constructed over Indus River by Combat Engineers 'Fire & Fury Corps'.
- 4. India's telecom company Reliance Jio has acquired chatbot making startup Haptik recently. In the Rs 700-crore deal, Rs 230 crore will go for business transfer and Rs 470 crore will go towards expansion.
- 5. India and Bolivia agreed to forge mutually beneficial partnership to facilitate Bolivian supplies of lithium Carbonate to India and foster joint ventures for Lithium battery and cell production plants in India.
- 6. The Board of private sector lender, Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd (LVB) on April 5, 2019 approved its merger with the mortgage financier, Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd in an all stock deal. As per the 'Scheme of Amalgamation' approved by the LVB board, for every 100 shares of Laxmi Vilas Bank held, shareholders will receive 14 shares of Indiabulls Housing Finance.
- 7. Dream11 has become the first Indian gaming company to be valued at over \$1 billion. With this, it has entered India's growing club of unicorns, or startups valued at over \$1 billion. The valuation of Dream11 Fantasy Pvt. Ltd., the startup's parent, soared to just under \$1.5 billion after a secondary stake purchase by Hong Kong-based Steadview Capital.
- 8. India was positioned as the world's top recipient of remittances with its diaspora sending USD 79 billion back home in 2018, according to the World Bank's latest Migration and Development Brief. India managed to retain its top spot in remittances by registering a significant flow of remittances from USD 62.7 billion in 2016 to USD 65.3 billion 2017 and to USD 79 billion in 2018.
- 9. India, Singapore joint military exercise, 'Bold Kurukshetra 2019' began on April 8, 2019 at Babina Cantonment, Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh. This is the 12th edition of the exercise. The three-day exercise is being conducted to develop military technology, boost maritime security and bolster the nations' fight against terrorism.
- 10. The Supreme Court on April 9, 2019 ruled that a woman, who fled her marital or matrimonial home due to cruelty of dowry harassment, can file a case of dowry harassment against her husband and in-laws from the place she has taken shelter under Section 498 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).
- 11. Astronomers took the first ever image of a black hole located in a distant galaxy. It was captured by the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT), a network of eight linked telescopes. It measures 40 billion km across and has been described by scientists as "a monster".



- 12. The International Day of Human Space Flight was observed across the world on April 12, 2019. The day celebrates the anniversary of the first ever human space flight undertaken by Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet Union citizen then.
- 13. United Arab Emirates (UAE) will host the world's leading Artificial Intelligence (AI) Summit -AIE from April 30 to May 1, 2019. The summit aims to empower global dialogue on the future of government, business and society. The inaugural 'AI Everything', AIE will take place at the Dubai World Trade Centre.
- 14. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on April 15, 2019 successfully test fired indigenously designed Long Range Sub-Sonic Cruise Missile "Nirbhay" from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha.
- 15. The World Health Organization (WHO) has raised alarm over a 300 percent increase in the case of measles globally in the first quarter of 2019 compared with last year. So far this year, 170 countries have reported 112,163 measles cases to WHO. At this time in 2018, 163 countries had reported 28,124 cases.
- 16. World Heritage Day, also known as the 'International Day for Monuments and Sites', was observed across the world on April 18, 2019 with an aim to create awareness among the people to conserve and protect the valuable assets and cultural heritage across the world.
- 17. India's rank in the World Press Freedom Index 2019 dropped down to 140th from 138th in 2018, two points below the previous year. As per the Index, one of the most striking features of the current state of press freedom in India is violence against journalists including police violence, attacks by Maoist fighters, criminal groups and corrupt politicians.
- 18. Saudi Arabia will host the annual G20 leaders' summit on November 21-22, 2020 in Riyadh. The G20 is made up of 19 of the world's biggest economies and the European Union. The group was formed in 1999 to discuss policy matters and financial stability.
- 19. The World Book and Copyright Day was observed across the world on April 23, 2019 to highlight the power of books and to promote UNESCO's vision of knowledge societies that are inclusive, pluralistic, equitable, open and participatory for all citizens.
- 20. The Supreme Court on April 23, 2019 constituted a three-judge panel headed by Justice SA Bobde, the senior-most judge in apex court after the Chief Justice of India (CJI), to inquire into the sexual harassment complaint by a former junior court assistant against CJI Ranjan Gogoi. Besides Justice SA Bobde, the inquiry panel comprises Justice NV Ramana, the next senior most judge, and Justice Indira Banerjee, who was elevated to the Supreme Court on August 7, 2018.
- 21. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will shortly issue Rs 20 denomination banknotes in the Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series, bearing signature of Shaktikanta Das, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. The new Rs 20 banknote has motif of Ellora Caves on the reverse, depicting the country's cultural heritage. The base colour of the note is Greenish Yellow.
- 22. The Shanghai Co-operation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' conclave was held at Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan on April 29, 2019. India's Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman attended the conclave and held bilateral meetings with her Chinese and Russian counterparts and Chief of General Staff of Kyrgyz Armed Forces. Key bilateral defence issues, including defence co-operation, were discussed. India became a full member of the SCO in 2017.
- 23. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) approved the merger of IndusInd Bank with Bharat Financial Inclusion (BFIL). The merger will be completed within 2-4 weeks. Post merger, the BFIL will become a subsidiary of the IndusInd Bank.
- 24. The Islamic State (ISIS) has claimed responsibility for serial bombings in Sri Lanka which killed over 310 people and injured about 500 others on Easter, on April 21, 2019. Sri Lankan government had earlier named local Islamist radical group, the National Thowheed Jamaath, as the prime suspect, for the string of eight powerful blasts that shattered a decade of peace in the island nation since the end of the civil war.
- 25. The Indian Council of Medical Research launched the 'Malaria Elimination Research Alliance (MERA) India' in order to prioritise, plan and scale up research to eliminate Malaria from India by 2030.
- 26. In a first, the Indian Army on April 25, 2019 began online registration of women for recruitment as soldiers into the military police. The recruitment for 'Soldier General Duty (Women Military Police)' was mooted by the Army Chief



- General Bipin Rawat soon after he took over the post. The approval for the creation of the post came recently by the Defence Ministry.
- 27. The 29th edition of the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair (ADIBF) began on April 24, 2019. India is attending the fair as the "Guest of Honour" country, reflecting the strong relations between the leadership and the people of the UAE and India.
- 28. INS Kolkata and Shakti are scheduled to participate in the International Fleet Review in Qingdao, China as part of 70th Anniversary celebrations of People's Liberation Army Navy (PLA Navy). International Fleet Review (IFR) is a parade of naval ships, aircraft and submarines, and is organised by nations to promote goodwill, strengthen cooperation and showcase their organisational capabilities.
- 29. The Reporters Without Borders (RSF) on April 18, 2019 released the World Press Freedom Index 2019, reflecting growing animosity towards journalists. This year, the index has been topped by Norway again for the third year, followed by Finland and Sweden at second and third positions, respectively.
- 30. The US Department of State has advised its citizens to reconsider their travel to Pakistan due to terrorism. It has asked their citizens not to travel to restive Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) and Pakistan occupied Jammu & Kashmir as it has identified these places as the most dangerous areas due to terror attacks.
- 31. Election Commission of India banned exit polls and publishing or publicizing result of exit polls during Lok sabha Elections 2019, in exercise of powers under sub-section(1) of Section 126A of Representation of People Act 1951. Elections Legislative Assemblies of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha & Sikkim 2019 will be held along with Lok sabha Elections 2019.
- 32. Aoleang Monyu festival held in Mon (Nagaland), with around 5000 Konyak Naga women in their traditional attire setting a Guinness World Record for the 'Largest Traditional Konyak Dance'. Theme of Aoleang Monyu festival (also called Mini Hornbill is 'Empowering women for cultural heritage.'
- 33. April 6 7, 2019 Marks Platinum Jubilee (75 Years) anniversary of Battle of Kangla Tongbi, one of the fiercest battles of World War II.
  - 1. It was fought by Ordnance personnel of 221 Advance Ordnance Depot (AOD) on the night of 6 / 7 April 1944, against intruding Japanese forces that planned to capture Imphal.
  - 2. Kangla Tongbi War Memorial is a mute testimony to this battle and unflinching devotion to duty of Ordnance personnel of 221 AOD, 19 of whom made the supreme sacrifice.
  - 3. Nagaland also observed 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Kohima, which was fought in 3 hree stages during the Second World War in 1944. It was considered as turning point of Japanese U Go offensive, or Operation C mission launched in India in 1944. Battle is often referred to as the "Stalingrad of the East". Kohima was theatre of War in 1944 and Nagas were split among British and Japanese."
- 34. Bamboo rice shown up in Odisha, after last witnessing it in 1979. Forest Authorities of Chandaka-Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary in Cuttack district have opened up the gates for the forest dwellers to collect Bamboo rice. Whenever bamboo rice shows up, it would be accompanied by the increase in the rat population which starts running over bamboo rice. To avoid this menace, forest authorities allowed forest dwellers to harvest Bamboo rice.
- 35. Delhi High Court has ruled that Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) prevails over Bankruptcy Act and insolvency code when it comes to attachment of properties obtained as 'proceeds of crime'.
  - 1. Enforcement Directorate (ED) had challenged orders of PMLA appellate tribunal on pleas of various banks. PMLA Tribunal held that third parties (banks in this case) have a superior claim over such properties.
  - 2. Delhi High Court stated that PMLA, Recovery of Debt and Bankruptcy Act (RDBA), Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Securities Interest (SARFAESI) Act and Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) must co-exist and be enforced in harmony.
- 36. Delhi High Court sought response from Cabinet Committee on Security on a plea seeking directions to remove dual control of Assam Rifles and bring it under Ministry of Defence.



- Assam Rifles which is oldest paramilitary force of India. Its administrative control lies with Home Ministry, while operational control is with Defence Ministry. Plea filed by alleges dual control as violation of rights of troopers of Assam Rifles.
- 2. Plea filled by All India Assam Rifles Ex-Servicemen Welfare Association challenges Government (Allocation of Business) Rules 1961 saying that it places Assam Rifles under the head 'Police', which is arbitrary and unreasonable.
- 37. Election Commission of India prohibited display in electronic media including cinematograph of any biopic or publicity material in nature of biography/hagiography sub-serving purposes of any political entity or any individual entity connected to it. It was done by EC using powers under Article 324. It has direct reference to deferring release of a Bollywood Movie which is biopic of PM Narendra Modi.
- 38. India's first-of-its-kind 'Voter Park' inaugurated in Gurugram (Haryana), aimed at increasing voter awareness and educating people about electoral process. Project Kannamma initiative launched by Rotary Club of Madras North to provide biodegradable sanitary napkins under the brand name, "Aavaram" to the girl students in government schools of Tamil Nadu.
- 39. Facebook announced ban on personality quiz apps on its platform, after recent Cambridge Analytica Scandal, which helped researcher's to access personal information of about 87 million facebooks users by using quiz app "thisisyourdigitallife". WhatsApp launched India-focused fact-checking feature to combat fake news and rumours, enabling Users to check authenticity of information received on platform by reporting forward to WhatsApp number +91-9643-000-888. Response will indicate if information is classified as 'true', 'false', 'misleading', 'disputed' or 'out of scope'.
- 40. Supreme Court Judge K.M. Joseph stated that Right to Information Act confers on ordinary citizens the 'priceless right' to demand information even in matters affecting national security and relations with a foreign state. "This judgment countered the claim made by government for privilege over Rafale purchase documents under Official Secrets Act (OSA), saying it affected national security and relations with France. Justice Joseph said Right to Information (RTI) Act overawes the OSA. "Under Section 8(2) of RTI Act, government cannot refuse information if disclosure in public interest overshadows certain 'protected interests.'
- 41. Supreme Court banned all mining activities along the Kaziranga National Park and catchment area of rivers originating in Karbi Anglong Hills in Assam. National Green Tribunal has put an interim penalty of Rs 100 crore on Andhra Pradesh government for inaction to prevent illegal sand mining in state.
- 42. 2019 World Table Tennis Championships were held in Budapest (Hungary) -

Men's Singles - Ma Long (China)

Women's Singles - Liu Shiwen (China)

Men's Doubles - Ma Long (China) and Wang Chuqin (China)

Women's Doubles - Sun Yingsha (China) and Wang Manyu (China)

- 43. 23rd Asian Athletics Championships held in Doha (Qatar). 43 nations participated in the events. India with 17 medals (3 Gold, 7 silver and 7 bronze) finished fourth in the events while Bahrain bagged first position.
- 44. 39th Badminton Asia Championships 2019 (Wuhan, China) -

Men's singles - Kento Momota (Japan)

Women's singles - Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)

Men's doubles - Hiroyuki Endo (Japan) and Yuta Watanabe (Japan)

Women's doubles - Chen Qingchen (China) and Jia Yifan (China)

45. 48th Asian Weightlifting Championships 2019 (Ningbo, China).

214 athletes from 27 nations participated in. India won 5 medals (3 silver and 2 bronze) medals and finished at 10th place while China bagged the first spot.

46. All India Tennis Association (AITA) has signed an MoU with Serbian Tennis Federation (STF) to train Indian junior players under world-renowned Serbian coaches. Kho-Kho Federation of India (KKFI) launched an franchise-based league for sport named Ultimate Kho-Kho, in collaboration with Dabur India Ltd.



- 47. International cricket council (ICC) cricket for good in partnership with UNICEF, launched #OneDay4Children, a tournament-wide campaign to help construct a better world for all child, at the World Cup 2019. 48 matches will support #OneDay4Children activity and funds gathered will strengthen UNICEF's work for children in cricket playing nations across world.
- 48. International Hockey Federation (FIH) imposed fine of one lakh seventy-six thousand Euros (1.3 Crores INR) on Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) for not honouring Pro League commitments.

  Indian men's hockey team would join elite Pro League in early 2020 after International Hockey Federation's

approved it.

- 49. BCCI recommended Cricketers Mohammad Shami, Jasprit Bumrah, Ravindra Jadeja and Female Cricketer Poonam Yadav for Arjuna award 2019. Also, All India Football Federation (AIFF) recommended Gurpreet Singh Sandhu and Jeje Lalpekhlua for Arjuna Award 2019.
- 50. Wisden Cricketers' Almanack 2019 -
  - 1. India's Virat Kohli and Smriti Mandhana as Leading male and female cricketer of 2019 respectively. Smriti Mandhana bagged women's title for first time while Virat Kohli named for 3rd straight year.
  - 2. Virat Kohli is also named among England's Rory Burns, Jos Buttler, Sam Curran and Tammy Beaumont in receiving the honour Wisden's Five Cricketers of the Year." 3. Afghanistan Cricketer Rashid Khan named Leading Twenty20 Cricketer for 2nd successive time.
- 51. Delhi Metro Started Operaing trains on Solar Power, on Commencement of supply of 27 MW power from Madhya Pradesh-based Rewa Solar Power Project. DMRC aims to become world's first 100 % Solar Power Run Metro System.
- 52. Supreme Court constituted a three-judge panel headed by Justice SA Bobde, to inquire into sexual harassment complaint by a former junior court assistant against CJI Ranjan Gogoi.
  - 1. Justice Bobde had inducted Justices Ramana and Banerjee into it. Justice Ramana recuse (remove himself) from the panel, who was later replaced by Justice Indu Malhotra. This is first an in-house inquiry on a sexual harassment complaint conducted in SC Court.
  - 2. Another Panel was formed by Supreme Court, headed by retd. Justice A K Patnaik to hold inquiry into claims of lawyer alleging conspiracy against CJI Ranjan Gogoi. It wont go into sexual harassment allegations against the CJI, as a separate panel is looking into it.
- 53. Madras high court lifted the ban on Chinese short-video app 'TikTok', three weeks after it had asked Government to prohibit further downloads of this popular application on Google and Apple app stores. However, high court asked owners of the app to ensure that the platform does not allow pornography.
- 54. Delhi Govt launched a new mobile application named ONE DELHI, aiming to be universal journey planner app for all commuters in capital with several features such as accessing real-time arrival of all cluster buses at any bus stop and static data of DTC buses.
- 55. Publishing company Garuda Prakashan launched its two books -
  - 1. Modi Again: Why Modi is right for India, An Ex-Communist Manifesto Abhas Maldahiya
  - 2. Saffron Swords Centuries of Indic Resistance to Invaders Manoshi Sinha Rawal
- 56. Kandhamal Haldi (a variety of turmeric indigenous to southern Odisha) earned Geographical indication (GI) tag. Kandhamal Haldi has more oleoresin and volatile oil contents compared to other turmeric varieties.

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