

# Abhyaas Newsboard...

*For the quintessential test prep student*

## Persons in News

1. Biju Janta Dal (BJD's) Chandrani Murmu, who won from Keonjhar in Odisha, became youngest elected member in the history of Lok Sabha at 25 years, 11 months and 8 days.
2. Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Health, and Family Welfare Minister stated that the Government has developed an ambitious National Strategic Plan to end Tuberculosis (TB) by 2025. As per the Global TB report, India accounts for 27.4 lakh new TB cases annually which are 204 per lakh population for the year 2017. India ranks 35th in the world in terms of TB cases per lakh population.
3. Thawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment was recently appointed as Leader of Rajya Sabha (Council of States). The Leader of the Rajya Sabha is appointed by the party in power at Centre. This position was occupied by senior BJP leader and former Union Finance Minister, Arun Jaitley in previous Narendra Modi-led government (2014-2019).
4. Former NIA chief Sharad Kumar has been named interim Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) until a new incumbent is chosen by Prime Minister Narendra Modi-headed selection panel.
  - He is former chief of anti-terror probe agency National Investigation Agency (NIA), took over as Vigilance Commissioner on June 12 last year.
  - His tenure at the Central Vigilance Commission will end in October next year, when he completes 65 years of age.
5. Ajit Doval was reappointed as National Security Advisor (NSA) of India for another five year tenure. In recognition of his earlier contribution in the national security domain, he has also been elevated to rank of Cabinet Minister for this term. During his first term 2014-2019 NSA was given rank of Minister of State (MoS).
6. According to the Personnel Ministry, Government of India, Arvind Kumar (59), a 1984 batch IPS (Indian Police Service) officer from Assam- Meghalaya cadre has been made the chief of Intelligence Bureau (IB) for the tenure of two years. He is currently serving as special director in the IB. He will succeed Rajiv Jain.
7. As per the Personnel Ministry, Government of India, Samant Kumar Goel, a 1984 batch IPS (Indian Police Service) officer of Punjab cadre appointed as chief of Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) on a fixed two-year term. He is presently serving as Special Secretary in the RAW. He will succeed Anil K Dhasmana.
8. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, Government of India has extended the tenure of Amitabh Kant, CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Government's think tank NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India), by two years, up to June 30, 2021. Kant, a 1980 batch IAS officer of the Kerala cadre was appointed as CEO on February 17, 2016.
9. Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel, sworn in as Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court. His oath of ceremony was administered by lieutenant governor of Delhi, Anil Baijal. He succeeded Justice Rajendra Menon, who retired after 2 decades of service.
10. Acting Chief Justice of Telangana High Court, Raghvendra Singh Chauhan was sworn-in as the second Chief Justice of Telangana High Court in Hyderabad. He succeeded Chief Justice T.B. Radhakrishnan in April, 2019 and sworn in as acting Chief Justice. He hails from Rajasthan.
11. The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Delhi police arrested vice-chairman of the Wave group Manpreet Singh Chadha alias Monty from the Indira Gandhi International airport in connection with the more than Rs. 100-crore fraud case while he was allegedly trying to escape to Phuket, Thailand.
12. Krishnaswamy Natarajan has been appointed as the new Director General (DG) of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). He will take over the charge after incumbent Rajendra Singh retires on 30th June 2019. An alumnus of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Natarajan is now serving as Additional Director General and Coast Guard

Commander (West) at Mumbai. He was instrumental in giving a fillip to the overall growth of the Coast Guard, post 26 / 11, in terms of assets and infrastructure development including a dedicated academy.

13. Scott Morrison has been sworn-in as new Prime Minister of Australia, after retaining the position in the 2019 general election. Along with Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack, Mr. Morrison was sworn in by Queen Elizabeth's official representative, Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove, at a ceremony in the capital, Canberra. Mr. Morrison became Australia's 30th Prime Minister through an internal party vote in August 2018 in which he replaced Malcolm Turnbull as chief of the ruling Liberal Party. The 46th Parliament of Australia is expected to open in the first week of July.
14. Conservative businessman Nayib Bukele has been sworn-in as the new President of El Salvador. His presidency breaks three decades of bipartisanship between the conservative Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) and the outgoing Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN). Hence, Bukele is the first candidate to win the presidency since the end of the Salvadoran Civil War who did not represent either of the major two parties.
15. Rajiv Mehrishi, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India has been elected as external auditor of the World Health Organization (WHO) for four years from 2020 to 2023. He was elected at the 72nd World Health Assembly in Geneva in May 2019. This is the second major international audit assignment for the CAG this year following his selection for the post of External Auditor of Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome earlier this year in March 2019.
16. Thailand Parliament elected Prayuth Chan-ocha as the Prime Minister of the country. This will be the second term of Prayuth. Prayuth is the candidate of the military-backed Palang Pracharath party.
17. Egypt's first democratically-elected President Mohamed Morsi was buried on June 18, 2019 amid heavy security in Cairo, a day after his collapse and death during a court session. Rights groups have called for an independent and transparent probe into the detention conditions and death of the former leader.
18. Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed has been appointed as the new Director-General of Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), the powerful spy agency of Pakistan. He succeeded Lt Gen Asim Munir. Hameed has previously served as the head of the Counter Intelligence wing of the ISI.
19. China has appointed veteran diplomat Sun Weidong as its new envoy to India. He is an expert in South Asian affairs and worked closely with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar during his tenure in Beijing as the Indian ambassador from 2009 to 2013. Sun, who also served as the ambassador to Pakistan, is currently the Director General of the Policy and Planning Department of the Foreign Ministry. He will succeed Luo Zhaohui, who has been appointed as Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs.
20. Mohamed Ould Ghazouani was declared as the winner of Mauritania presidential elections 2019. He is a former Defense Minister of the country. Ghazouani won over 52 percent of the votes, as per the country's electoral commission.
21. Cancer-hit badminton star Lee Chong Wei announced his retirement, ending a brilliant career in which he collected a swathe of honours but never won a world or Olympic title. Lee, who spent a total of 348 weeks as world number one but lost six world and Olympic finals, wept as he called it quits months after suffering a cancer scare.
22. Indian all-rounder cricketer, Yuvraj Singh announced retirement from all forms of cricket. He played 40 test matches, 304 ODI's and 58 T20I's. He hails from Chandigarh. He is the recipient of the 2012 Arjuna Award and 2014 Padma Shri Award
23. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) of United Kingdom won the 2019 Canadian Grand Prix officially named as the Formula 1 Pirelli Grand Prix du Canada 2019. It was held in Circuit Gilles Villeneuve in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
24. Indian skipper Virat Kohli is the only Indian in the Forbes 2019 list of world's highest-paid athletes. The list, announced on June 11, 2019, is topped by Argentinean football star Lionel Messi.
25. Indian Gymnast, Pranati Nayak aged 23 won bronze medal in vault event at the 8th edition of Senior Asian Artistic Championships in Buyant Ukhua Sport Palace, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. She hails from West Bengal, India.
26. Multiple times world champion Peter Gilchrist defeated India's Sourav Kothari in the finals to win the 2019 Pacific International Billiards Championship played at the Yarraville Club in Melbourne, Australia.

27. Roger Federer has become first player in history to play 400 Grand Slam matches. Roger Federer is a Swiss professional tennis player who is currently ranked world No. 3 in men's singles tennis by the Association of Tennis Professionals.
28. 22-year-old Girish A. Koushik of Mysore, Karnataka became India's 63rd Grandmaster (GM) at the 37th Balaton International Chess Festival in Hungary. He became the third Grandmaster from Karnataka, after Thejkumar M S and Stany G A.
29. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande of Nigeria has been elected as the next President of United Nations General Assembly. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande is a Nigerian political scientist, administrator and career diplomat. He was the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations and served as the Vice-President of the General Assembly during its 71st session in September 2016.
30. Admiral Karambir Singh has been appointed as the 24th Chief of the Naval Staff. The "Grey Eagle" of the Navy, he replaced Admiral Sunil Lanba as the CNS after Admiral Lanba's retirement on May 31st, 2019. The Indian Navy is the naval branch of the Indian Armed Forces. The President of India is the Supreme Commander of the Indian Navy. The Chief of Naval Staff, a four-star admiral, commands the navy.
31. N Gopaldaswami has been appointed as the Electoral Officer of BCCI. The Board of Control for Cricket in India is the national governing body for cricket in India. The board was formed in December 1928 as a society, registered under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act. President: C.K. Khanna || Headquarters: Mumbai || Chief Exec: Rahul Johri || Women's coach: W. V. Raman || Men's coach: Ravi Shastri || Founded: December 1928
32. Hemant Pandey, a senior DRDO scientist, has developed a herbal drug – Lukoskin - to treat leucoderma, a condition in which white patches develop on the skin. The auto-immune condition, also called 'vitiligo', can be life-altering. Vitiligo is neither contagious nor life-threatening. Worldwide, the incidence of leucoderma is 1-2% of the population. In India, its incidence is around 4-5% in some parts of Rajasthan. In Gujarat, it is very high at more than 5-8%. This skin disorder is considered a social stigma in India where people confuse it with leprosy. Recently, the Modi government also conferred Pandey with the prestigious 'Science Award' for developing 'Lukoskin' to treat the skin condition. Lukoskin is manufactured and marketed by Delhi-based AIMIL Pharma Ltd. It is available as an ointment and oral liquid. A more developed version is likely to hit the market soon.

### Places in News

1. Amasebailu in Kundapura Taluk of Udupi district has been named as Karnataka's first solar- powered Gram Panchayat. The allocation of fund between the Centre and State Government in the ratio of 30: 20, and the rest is given by the Panchayat and charitable organizations. About 1858 houses connected with the solar power at a total cost of 2.13 crore.
2. The state government of Karnataka launched "Pink Sarathi vehicles" for women safety. This was launched by the Chief Minister of Karnataka, H.D.Kumaraswamy. The vehicles were procured by the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTTC) under the 'Nirbhaya' scheme. BMTTC has received Rs.56.07 crore from the central Government.
3. The Haryana High court (HC) declared the entire animal kingdom, including avian and aquatic, as a legal entity having rights of a living person. The verdict of Punjab and Haryana HC comes a year after Uttarakhand HC passed similar order to protect and promote greater welfare of animals.
4. Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani inaugurated the new Dinosaur Museum-cum-Park at Raiyoli village in Balasinor town of Mahisagar district. This is the first such park in the country and also the world's third park which exhibits remains of various dinosaurs and fossil records. The Tourism Corporation of Gujarat Ltd created the whole infrastructure of the museum.
5. Ranbir Penal Code or RPC is a criminal code applicable in Jammu and Kashmir. The code was introduced during the reign of Dogra dynasty with Ranbir Singh as its ruler. Indian Penal Code is not applicable here under Article 370 of the Indian constitution. It was made on the lines of Indian Penal Code prepared by Thomas Babington Macaulay.
6. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced free Delhi Metro and DTC bus rides for women. The move, which is yet to be cleared by the centre, will be launched in three months, said Mr Kejriwal, adding that it would cost the

- Delhi government Rs. 700 crore this year. However, the free ride scheme has been almost unanimously debunked by experts, including the creator of Delhi Metro, Dr E Sreedharan who shot a letter to the Union Government urging them not to consider the proposal
7. Central Government has permitted to set up e-Foreigner Tribunal (e-FT) in Assam. It is a quasi-judicial authority which assesses the question of the authenticity of a person's citizenship. When the final list of National Register of Citizens (NRC) is published, the people left out in the final NRC can challenge their exclusion through these tribunals. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of e-FT Mission is Anand Prakash Tiwari. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India empowered district magistrates in all States and Union Territories to set up Foreigners Tribunals (FTs). In this regard, it has amended the Foreigners Tribunals Order, 1964 by the Foreigners Tribunal Order, 2019. It is to decide whether a person staying illegally in India is a foreigner or not."
  8. Scientists from Delhi University and the Wildlife Institute of India along with researchers from Indonesia and the US found a new species of 'paddy frog' from Northeast India, primarily Cachar district of Assam. The study was published in PeerJ, a peer-reviewed journal. The new species of 'paddy frog' has been named 'aishani' or aisani, means Northeast in Sanskrit. Its scientific name is *Micryletta aishani*.
  9. Bancha in Betul district of Madhya Pradesh became the first village in India to have zero wooden stoves. There was no use for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinders as all 75 houses relied on solar-powered stoves to meet their cooking needs. The solar-powered stoves were developed by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mumbai.
  10. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has declared Chaukhandi Stupa as a protected area "Monument of national importance". The ancient Buddhist site situated in Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh. It is said that Chaukhandi stupa was a terraced temple constructed between 4th to 6th century of the Gupta period.
  11. New species of dung beetle *Enoplotrupes tawangensis* was found in Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh. It is shining dark blue in colour and bigger than most of the dung beetles. It measured up to 27 mm. The details have been published in an international journal *Oriental Insects*. They are referred to as little recyclers as they help in nutrient cycling of the soil.
  12. Asian Football Confederation (AFC), confirmed that China will host the 2023 Asia Cup. This will be the second time China is hosting the quadrennial continental tournament, after the 2004 edition. China ranked 74th in the FIFA's rankings and is qualified for the World Cup in 2002.
  13. The World Bank recently approved USD 147 Million Loan to Jharkhand. In this regard, a tri-partite agreement was signed between Indian Government, Jharkhand and the World Bank. The loan will help improve the management capacity of the urban local bodies.
  14. Central India got its First Sikh Museum in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The museum Shri Guru Teg Bahadur Sikh Museum is located at Gurudwara Gurusingh Sabha in Guru Nanak Nagar. It was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Bhupesh Bagel on the 'Shahidi Divas' of the fifth Sikh Guru, Arjun Dev.
  15. On the occasion of World No Tobacco Day (May 31), Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot announced the ban on advertisement, production, distribution and online or offline sale of e- cigarettes in the state. This was a part of Congress party's manifesto for Elections 2019. Along with this, it has increased the financial assistance given to school girls under the 'Aapki Beti' scheme. For girls studying in class 1 to 8, it is hiked to Rs. 2,100 from Rs. 1,100 and for the girls in class 9 to 12, its hiked to Rs. 2,500 from Rs. 1,500.

### *Events of Significance*

1. The Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), India's top oil and gas producer, has toppled Indian Oil Corp (IOC) to become the country's most profitable public sector company in this fiscal, the PSU reported a 34 per cent jump in its 2018-19 fiscal net profit to Rs 26,716 crore.
2. The Reserve Bank of India has done away with the charges levied on fund transfers through RTGS and NEFT. The central bank has also asked the banks to pass on the benefits to customers, a move that will boost digital transactions.
3. Facebook has launched its first interactive game show titled "Confetti" in India, which will start from June 12 on its dedicated video platform - Facebook Watch. The interactive show will air from Wednesday to Sunday and will challenge participants to answer pop culture trivia questions for a chance to win Rs 3 lakh as cash prize every



day. In 2018, the social networking giant globally rolled out Facebook Watch as its video-on-demand service in an attempt to take on its rival YouTube. The video service allows users to enjoy videos from different genres, including entertainment, sports and news in their personalised "Watch Feed" that carries a collection of recent videos from the pages they follow.

4. Facebook launched its own digital currency 'Libra', powered by blockchain technology, for users around the world. Facebook's 'Calibra' digital wallet will let users save, send and spend Libra with a smartphone.
5. The Union Government has constituted an 18-member working group for the revision of the current series of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) under Chairmanship of Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member of NITI Aayog. The revision of the base year would help in presenting a more realistic picture of the price situation and its impact on people. The Office of Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade will be the nodal office for the Working Group and will process the report and recommendation of the Group for further necessary action.
6. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up an 8-member expert committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to suggest long-term solutions for the economic and financial sustainability of the MSMEs. This committee is set up under the leadership of former SEBI Chairman UK Sinha to review the current framework for the MSME Sector. The committee will examine the factors affecting the timely and adequate availability of finance to the MSME sector.
7. Flipkart's co-founder Binny Bansal sold around 54 lakh of his equity shares valued at USD 76 million to FIT Holdings SARL, Walmart's Luxembourg entity. Walmart is headquartered in Arkansas, United States.
8. The Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (CGPDTM) has granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Kolhapuris, the ethnic leather chappal (footwear) to four districts in each state of Maharashtra and Karnataka. GI is used on products/items which have specific geographical origin and possess qualities, reputation and distinctiveness which is essentially attributable to its origin in that defined geographical locality. The tag is valid for a period of 10 years following which it can be renewed. The 1st product to get a GI tag in India was Darjeeling tea in the year 2004.
9. S Jaishankar, Union Minister of External Affairs flagged off the first batch of pilgrims (yatris) from New Delhi, for this year's 'Kailash Mansarovar Yatra'. The duration of pilgrimage is 24 days for each batch including 3 days in Delhi for preparatory work. The pilgrimage which started in 1981 now sees participation of thousands of devotees every year.
10. Saudi Arabia increased India's Haj quota by 30,000 which was the third hike in 3 years. It was increased from 1,70,000 to 200,000. With this, more Indians will get a chance to visit annual Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, a city in Hejazi region of Saudi Arabia. The issue discussed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Mohammed bin Salman in the ongoing G20 Summit in Osaka Japan.
11. The Union Government has entered into agreements with Bangladesh and South Korea to broadcast DD (Doordarshan) India channel in these countries. In return, the state channels of these two countries will be shown on DD Free Dish in India.
12. "Defence sources revealed that the Indian Air Force mission to bomb a terrorist hideout in Pakistan's Balakot was codenamed 'Operation Bandar' (Monkey). The February 26 cross-border airstrike was a rare instance when the Indian Air Force crossed the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir and bombed targets in Pakistani territory. "India had termed the airstrike an "intelligence-led, non-military, pre-emptive" operation that targeted a camp run by the Jaish-e-Mohammed in Balakot, a town located in the Pakistan's Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province. While India did not officially say so, the Balakot airstrike was seen as a response to the February 14 Pulwama suicide attack, in which 40 jawans of the Central Reserve Police Force were killed. Jaish-e-Mohammed had claimed responsibility for the Pulwama suicide bombing."
13. The armies of India and Myanmar carried out a three-week-long coordinated operation from May 16 in their respective border areas named 'Operation Sunrise 2'. They targeted the militant groups operating in Manipur, Nagaland, and Assam to bust terror camps.
14. China has successfully launched a space rocket from sea for the first time and became the third nation to successfully demonstrate the ability to launch satellites into orbit from a floating platform after Russia and United States. The

China National Space Administration (CNSA) has announced that a Long March 11 rocket was launched from a floating launch pad in the Yellow Sea just off the coast of Shandong on 5th June 2019. China now spends more than Russia and Japan on its civil and military space programmes. Earlier this year, China became the first nation to land a rover on the far side of the moon. It also unveiled ambitious plans to build a research base on the lunar surface, send a probe to Mars and build a space station in Earth orbit.

15. Chandrayaan-2 will be launched on July 15, 2019 confirmed Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman K Sivan on June 12. ISRO has released the first images of the moon lander. Chandrayaan-2 is India's second mission to the moon.
16. The Kargil Vijay Diwas (KVD) is celebrated every year on July 26 to commemorate India's emphatic victory against Pakistan. The day is named after the success of Operation Vijay. In 2019, India will celebrated the 20th anniversary of victory in Kargil war with pride, honour and inspiration from 25th to 27th of July at Dras and New Delhi. The Kargil War is a saga of strong political, military and diplomatic actions. The purpose of these celebratios is to evoke feeling of nationalism and patriotism through nationwide campaigns especially amongst youth and to pay homage to the valiant soldiers. This year, the Kargil Vijay Diwas (KVD) is being celebrated with the theme 'Remember, Rejoice and Renew'.
17. Indian Navy has recently launched Operation Sankalp in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman to reassure Indian flagged vessels transiting through the area. The development has come in the wake of the suspected attacks on two merchant ships in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman region. Both the attacks took place at Strait of Hormuz, which is a major conduit for global oil supplies. The US has blamed Iran for the attack. The Navy has deployed stealth guided missile destroyers INS Chennai and patrol vessel INS Sunayna in the region for maritime security operations. In addition, aerial surveillance in the area is also being done by IN aircraft.
18. The Election Commission of India granted the National party status to National People's Party(NPP) led by Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma. It becomes the first Party from North East region to get this tag. With this tag, it becomes the eighth national party in the country among All India Trinamool Congress, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), BSP, CPI, Communist Party of India (Marxist), Indian National Congress (INC) and NCP parties.
19. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister(CM) Jagan Mohan Reddy appointed 5 Deputy CMs in a full 25- member Cabinet,one each from Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), Backward Classes(BC), Minority and Kapu communities. The 5 Deputy CMs are Pamula Pushpa Sreevani, Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose, Alla Kali Krishna Srinivas, L Narayana Swamy and Amzath Basha.
20. The Centre has created a new Ministry called 'Jal Shakti' by merging the Ministries of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation along with Drinking Water and Sanitation. The move will bring all aspects of water management and regulation under one department. The Jal ministry will be headed by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Gajendra Singh Shekhawat while Ram Lal Kataria will be the minister of state.
21. India invited the leaders of The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Member States for the swearing-in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This invitation was in line with the Government's focus on its 'Neighbourhood First' policy.
22. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the extension of President's rule under article 356(4) of Indian Constitution, in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) for a period of 6 more months, beginning from 3 July 2019. The decision was based on prevailing situation in state as stated in report of Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Satya Pal Mallik.The Union Government given its approval for the extension of President's rule under article 356(4) of Indian Constitution In Jammu and Kashmir(J&K) for six more months beginning July 3, 2019. Under Article 92 of the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution the state was under Governor's rule on J&K on June 20, 2018, after that it was imposed in December 2018.
23. The K. Kasturirangan Committee has submitted the 484-pages draft report of National Education Policy to the new Union Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhariyal. The report on the National Education Policy has been put on the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD)'s website for suggestions from the public till June 30.
24. The Triple Talaq bill also known as the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019 was tabled in the Lok Sabha. The fresh bill has been introduced to make instant divorce among Muslims or 'triple talaq' illegal

after the previous ordinance lapsed as it could not be passed in the upper house of the Parliament, the Rajya Sabha following dissolution of the Lok Sabha to make way for Lok Sabha Elections 2019.

25. A survey conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) between July 2017 and June 2018 covering 4.3 lakh people revealed that the unemployment rate was about 6.1% in 2017-18, highest in 45 year since 1972-73. The unemployment rate in rural areas was about 5.3% while in urban areas it was about 7.8%.
26. Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the reconstitution of government of India's policy think tank NITI Aayog (or National Institution for Transforming India).  
 The NITI Aayog constitution is as follows:  
 Chairperson – Prime Minister Narendra Modi  
 Vice-Chairperson – Dr. Rajiv Kumar  
 Full-Time Members – (1) Shri V.K. Saraswat, (2) Prof. Ramesh Chand (3) Dr. V.K.Paul.
27. The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) of the Central Government of India headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has cleared setting up of new agency called Defence Space Research Agency (DSRO). The DSRO has been entrusted with task of creating space warfare weapon systems and technologies.
28. The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the bill to fine people with Rs 10,000 for blocking ambulances. The rule is the part of Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill.
29. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) will put forward the proposal of National Mission on Natural Language Translation with an outlay Rs 450 crore for next 3 years before the Union Cabinet. It is one of the key missions identified by the Prime Minister's Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC).
30. Electronics and IT Minister, Ravi Shankar Prasad stated that all gram panchayats (GPs) in the country will be connected with the high-speed broadband under BharatNet project by March 2020 with an aim to provide hassle-free high-speed broadband connectivity to 2.5 lakh gram panchayats across India.
31. Russia has launched the first tourist train to Arctic region. The train will travel through Russia's Arctic region on to Norway. It set off from St. Petersburg station on June 5 with 91 passengers aboard.
32. India has been ranked 95th out of a total 129 countries in the first-ever SDG Gender Index, which measures strides made in achieving gender commitment against internationally set targets. The index has been developed by Equal Measures 2030, which is a partnership among global and regional organisations from the civil society and the development and private sectors. It includes The African Women's Development and Communication Network, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, International Women's Health Coalition and Plan International. Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, Slovenia, Germany, Canada, Ireland, and Australia rank as the top 10 countries in the index.
33. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced to ban single-use plastics from 2021. The move was undertaken as a global challenge to phase out the plastic bags, plastic straws and plastic cutlery from the world that is blocking the world's oceans.
34. Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 14th G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan on 28th and 29th of June 2019. Former Union Minister Suresh Prabhu will be India's sherpa at the summit. More than 20 countries will be participating in the G20 Summit. Informal meeting of the BRICS leaders and bilateral meetings with other leaders would also take place on the sidelines of the summit. The theme of the summit is "Human-centred future society". India has participated in all the G20 Summits held so far. It will host the G20 summit in 2022 for the first time.
35. India's candidature for a non-permanent seat at the powerful UN Security Council for a two-year term has been endorsed by the 55 Asia-Pacific countries at the world body. A video message accompanying Mr. Akbaruddin's tweet said, "Asia-Pacific Group endorses India for Non-Permanent Seat of United Nations Security Council. 55 countries, 1 nominee - India for non-permanent seat of UN Security Council Term 2021-2022."
36. IAF has signed an MoU with ISRO for crew selection and training for Gaganyaan Mission. Gaganyaan is an Indian crewed orbital spacecraft intended to be the basis of the Indian Human Spaceflight Programme. The

spacecraft is being designed to carry three people, and a planned upgraded version will be equipped with rendezvous and docking capability.

First launch: December, 2020 (un-crewed), December 2021 (crewed) || Operator: Indian Space Research Organisation || Crew capacity: 3 || Design life: 7 days

R Hutton is the Project Director of Gaganyaan Programme.

37. The 2019 French Open was the 123rd edition of a Grand Slam tennis tournament. It was held from 26th May to 9th June 2019, at Stade Roland Garros in Paris, France. It is played on outdoor clay courts. The tournament comprises of singles, doubles and mixed doubles play matches. The Men's Singles Title was won by Rafael Nadal (Spain), while the Women's Singles Title :was won by Ashleigh Barty (Australia).
38. The 26-member squad of Indian women's Rugby team created a historic first international 15s rugby match win at Southern Plains Sports Field in Manila, Philippines. The victory came against Singapore to finish third in the Asia Rugby Women's Division 1 Rugby XV's Championship 2019 as India won 21-19 scores.
39. Indian Women's Hockey team won the FIH ( Fédération Internationale de Hockey) Women's Series Finals Hiroshima 2019 after defeating the host Japan by 3-1 in the finals held at the Hiroshima Hockey Stadium, Japan. Rani Rampal, Indian Team Captain was the best player of the tournament and Gurjit Kaur emerged as the top-scorer.
40. In the final round of voting at the 134th session of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Lausanne, Switzerland, Italy's Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo won the right to host the 2026 Winter Olympics, defeating Sweden's capital Stockholm. Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo received 47 votes from the IOC members and Stockholm secured 34 votes.
41. The National Geographic Society has announced the successful installation of the world's highest operating weather stations on Mount Everest to provide researchers, climbers, and the public with near real-time information about mountain conditions. The multi-disciplinary team installed the world's two highest operating automated weather stations at Balcony area (8,430 m) and South Col (7,945 m), as well as three other weather stations on Mount Everest.
42. The first-ever World Food Safety Day (WFSD) was officially celebrated on 7th June 2019 to strengthen efforts to ensure that the food we eat is safe. The theme of this year's inaugural WFSD 'Food Safety, everyone's business' invites us to recognize that food safety is everyone's business. The day was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in December 2018. The UN has designated two of its agencies - the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) - to lead efforts in promoting food safety around the world.
43. India celebrated the National Statistics Day 2019 on June 29 to create public awareness about the importance of statistics in socio-economic planning and policy formulation.
44. The World Refugee Day is observed every year on 20 June to commemorate the strength, courage, and perseverance of millions of refugees. The 2018 theme is #StepWithRefugees — Take A Step on World Refugee Day.
45. International Yoga Day 2019 was observed on June 21. The theme of the 5th International Yoga Day 2019 is "Climate Change". In the United Nations, it will be celebrated a day before that is on 20th June, 2019 with "Yoga with Gurus".

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