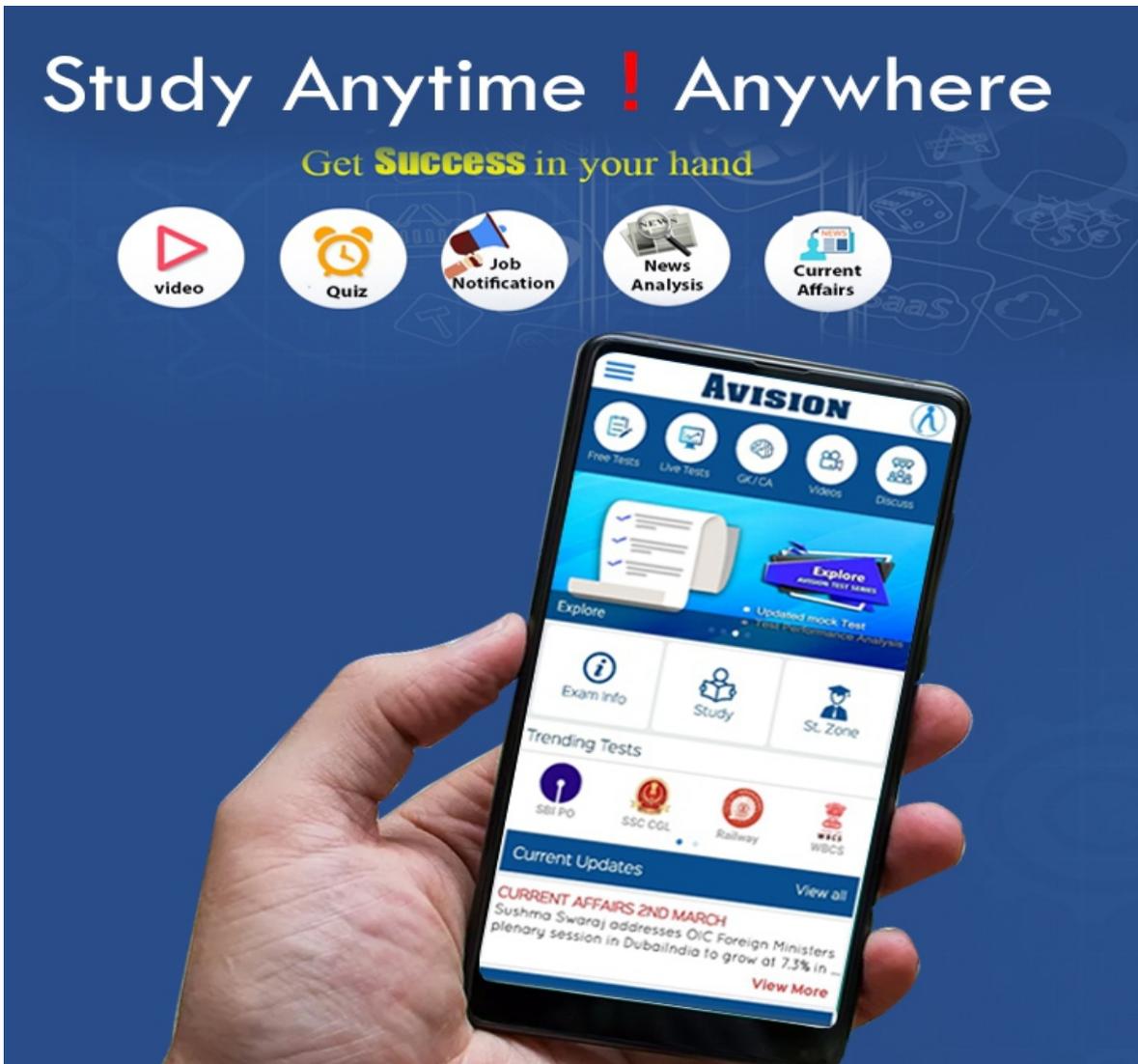


Weekly Current Affairs

3rd March - 9th March 2019

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International Affairs

Iran successfully tests a new cruise missile

Iran has announced a successful test of a new cruise missile having a range of 1,350 km. The Hoveizeh cruise missile was successfully tested at a range of 1,200 km. It also accurately hit the set target. It flies at a very low altitude and can be ready in the shortest possible time. The test coincided with the celebrations of the 1979 Islamic revolution of the country.

Pope and Grand Imam sign historic pledge

Pope and Grand Imam of al-Azhar have signed a historic declaration of fraternity, calling for peace between races, religions, and nations. Sheikh Ahmed al Tayeb is the head of Sunni Muslim's most prestigious seat of learning and Pope Francis is the leader of the world's Catholics. The document pledges that Vatican and al-Azhar will work together to fight extremism.

Pope Francis visits UAE

Pope Francis made his historic visit to UAE on 4th February 2019. Francis attended an inter-religious meeting and held Mass at Zayed Sports City. Pope Francis becomes first pontiff to visit Arabian Gulf. His visit to UAE has highlighted religious freedom.

Macedonia joined NATO

Macedonia signed an accord to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. By this, it became the 30th member of NATO. The Macedonia-NATO accord followed a deal with Greece, which ended a 27-year-old dispute over Macedonia's name. NATO is an intergovernmental military alliance between North American and European countries. Macedonia Capital: Skopje. Currency: Macedonian Denar.

National Affairs

Establishment of Circuit Bench approved

The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved the establishment of Circuit Bench of Calcutta High Court on 6th Feb 2019 at Jalpaiguri. It will have jurisdiction over 4 courts, which are Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, Kalimpong, and Darjeeling. The decision came against the backdrop of the decision of the Calcutta High Court Full Court Meeting in 1988.

CCEA approves 12,000 MW power projects

The CCEA chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved the proposal for setting up 12,000 MW Solar PV Power Projects. The proposal was by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy for the implementation of the CPSU scheme Phase-II for setting up these projects. The power projects will be set up in 4 years at a cost of Rs. 48,000 crores.

4th conference of AYUSH inaugurated

The 4th conference of UTs / AYUSH / Health Ministers of States was inaugurated by Shripad Naik, Minister of State of AYUSH on 6th February 2019. The conference was organised to provide an opportunity to UT/States to interact with each other for the development of AYUSH sector. It also reviewed progress made by States and UTs in the implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the NAM.

Amitabh Bachchan stars in national campaign

The Swachh Bharat Mission launched the 'Darwaza Band- Part 2' campaign on 6th Feb 2019 in Mumbai. The campaign was produced by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and was launched in the presence of iconic actor Amitabh Bachchan. The campaign focuses on sustaining the open defecation free status of village across the country.

Swine flu claimed 226 lives across the country

Swine flu has claimed 226 lives across the country, with the worst hit in Rajasthan claiming 85 deaths. 2,263 patients have been found positive with influenza as per the NCDC report. A meeting was held on 6th February 2019 by the Ministry of Health headed by Preeti Sudan to take action to deal with it. Swine flu is caused by H1N1 virus and has symptoms similar to the regular flu.

PM to flag off Vande Bharat Express

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag-off Vande Bharat Express on 15th February, 2019 from the New Delhi Railway Station. It is India's first engineless train. The train has been manufactured by the Integral Coach Factory, Chennai and has become India's fastest train. It hit the speed of over 180 kmph during a trial run at the Delhi-Mumbai Rajdhani route. Earlier, it was named Train 18.

Tehreek-ul-Mujahideen banned: MHA

J&K-based Tehreek-ul-Mujahideen has been banned by the Home Ministry. The group that came into existence in 1990 has been fighting for the liberation of Kashmir, and was also involved in a series of terror acts. A lot of cases have been registered by the J&K police in which TuM has played a major role in the commission of terror acts.

Develop app to help the blind: Bombay HC

The Bombay High Court asked the RBI to develop a mobile app to help the blind identify the denomination of various currency notes of India. Justice NM Jamdar and Justice Naresh Patil also directed RBI to develop a hardware-driven device to help the blind identify Indian currency denominations. RBI has been granted 4 weeks to look into the suggestions.

Bhoomipoojan of 3 National Highway Projects

Nitin Gadkari did Bhoomipoojan of 3 National Highway projects in Odisha. 132 km long Highways will be constructed with worth Rs. 2345 crores. He also inaugurated port projects worth Rs. 431 crores. The National Highway projects will ensure better connectivity of the mineral-rich Angul and Dhenkanal districts of Odisha.

Ladakh became third administrative division

On 8 February 2019, the Jammu and Kashmir government approved the creation of a separate Administrative Revenue Division for Ladakh. This division will comprise Leh and Kargil districts with its headquarters at Leh. Two posts of Divisional Commissioner and Inspector General of Police (IGP) were created. Now J&K will have three divisions - Jammu, Ladakh, and Kashmir.

IITM establishes new AI & data science centre

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has inaugurated the Robert Bosch Center for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence. The mission of the new centre is to create a societal impact on core challenges in data science (DS) and artificial intelligence (AI). It will be done through multidisciplinary interactions with government, academic, research and industrial collaborators.

ECI launched VVIP for General Elections 2019

The Election Commission of India has launched a Voter Verification and Information Programme (VVIP) on 8 February 2019. The VVIP programme is for citizens for verifications of their names, new registrations, changes in the voter details and corrections in the Voter Id Cards for the upcoming General Elections 2019. ECI has also set up Contact centres in all districts across India.

PM laid the foundation for NH Project

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the four laning of the Falakata -Salsalabari section of NH-31 D in the northern part of West Bengal on 8 February 2019. This 41.7 Km long section of the National Highway falls in the Jalpaiguri district. It will have 3 railway over bridges, 3 underpasses, 2 flyovers, 17 minor bridges, and 8 bridges.

Chennai Police launches 'DigiCop' app

Chennai Police Commissioner launched 'DigiCop' mobile app on 6 February 2019. The user can lodge mobile theft complaints using the app and can check if the user's mobile is in the police list of retrieved mobiles. Through the app, the user can also know the traffic condition in the city and also information about nearby police stations.

Nitin Gadkari laid foundation of NH project

Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, laid the foundation for 5 National Highway projects of length 632 km in Ayodhya on 8 Feb 2019. The estimated cost is Rs. 7195 crore and the project will establish direct connectivity from Ayodhya to Ambedkarnagar and Chitrakoot. He will also visit Prayagraj to inaugurate Phase 2 of River Information System on National Waterway -1.

Suresh Prabhu addresses interactive session

An interactive session on the Indo-Africa Strategic Economic Co-operation was held in New Delhi on 6th Feb 2019. It was organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The bilateral trade between Africa and India has increased from \$7 billion in 2001 to \$78 billion in 2014 and then \$60 billion in 2017. Suresh Prabhu is the Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation.

India's oldest elephant died at 88

'Granny Dakshayani', India's oldest elephant in captivity died at 88 in Kerala. She was awarded with the title 'Gaja Muthassi' and also took part in the temple processions and rituals for decades. India has around 2,454 elephants in captivity as per a survey released last month.

Kerala: 1st state to set price monitoring unit

Kerala has become the first state to set up a Price Monitoring and Research Unit to track the violation of prices of medical devices and essential drugs. The move came more than 5 years after NPPA proposed such a system for the states and UTs. Pinarayi Vijayan is the CM of Kerala and Palaniswamy Sathasivam is the Governor of Kerala.

New project approved by Union Government

A new project to control pollution in the river Sal in Goa was sanctioned by the Union government on 4th February 2019. The project will have a cost of Rs, 61.74 crores and will be borne by the Centre and state on 60:40 basis. It will significantly reduce the pollution in the river and improve its water quality.

Women allowed to work in underground mines

Women have been allowed to work in opencast and underground mines, as a part of the government's efforts to create more employment opportunities for women. New rules have been issued by the labour ministry allowing to work from 7 pm - 6 am in opencast mines. The employment of women in underground mines was restricted earlier under the Mines Act, 1952.

Meeting of IORA in Delhi

A meeting of Indian Ocean Rim Association will be organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs and National Disaster Management Authority in New Delhi on 5-6 February 2019. The aim is to help strengthen cooperation in disaster response. IORA is an inter governmental organisation which has 22 disaster-prone countries as its members. Headquarters: Mauritius, Founded: 1995

Air India's first Flight Simulator ready

Air India's first ever Flight Simulator, Boeing -747-200 is ready for public view at Nehru Science Centre in Mumbai. It was extensively used by the pilots and was manufactured and designed by CAE, Canada. It was acquired by Air India in 1980 and was in service for about 21 years. A Memorandum of Agreement was also signed between AAI and National Council of Science Museums for worth 2 crores.

Development of MSMEs

Giriraj Singh, Minister of State for MSME said that MSMEs have supported inclusive development and growth across the country. It reduces the regional imbalance. He said that 117 aspirational districts have been identified in the country by NITI Aayog and the Ministry has taken measures to accelerate MSME development efforts in these districts.

Foundation stone laid for new terminal in Leh

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for construction of new terminal building of the KBR airport in Leh. The new terminal will have all the modern amenities and will provide a seamless passenger movement. Apart from this, he also inaugurated several other development projects including the University of Ladakh and hydroelectric projects.

Development projects unveiled by PM in J&K

Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a series of development projects in Jammu and Kashmir in order to give a boost to the infrastructure in the state. He also laid the foundation stone of AIIMS at Vijaypur in Samba and announced that 500 seats in the state medical colleges will be added soon. Apart from these, he also laid the foundation stone for construction of 2 hydroelectric projects.

Centre to install 1500 manual stations by 2024

The Centre has aimed to install 300 real time air quality monitoring systems and 1500 manual stations by 2024 across the country. Currently installed in 70 cities, of which 48 are in the national capital. A few of these installations will also be a part of the National Clean Air Programme recently launched to reduce 20-30% pollution by 2024.

Government Policies & Schemes

Ujjwala Utsav observed by Oil industry

Ujjwala Utsav was observed by the Oil industry in New Delhi on 7th Feb 2019. It was observed to celebrate the stellar role played by all stakeholders in making PMUY scheme a success. PMUY anthem- 'Ujjwala Bharat Ujjwala' composed by Kailash Kher was also launched on the occasion. The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana aims to provide free cooking gas connections to 80 million families by 2020.

Cabinet approved scheme for Prasar Bharti

The Cabinet gave its approval to the proposal to launch Prasar Bharati's 'Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development' scheme. It will cost Rs 1,054.52 crore for 3 years from 2017-18 to 2019-20. It will help in strengthening broadcast infrastructure and network development. The Cabinet also approved the launch of DD ArunPrabha Channel from Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana app launched

Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) App is launched on Google play store. Ayushman Bharat Yojana or PM-JAY is a centrally sponsored scheme launched in 2018. It was launched under the Ayushman Bharat Mission of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. This scheme aims to provide health care facilities at primary, secondary and tertiary levels to address healthcare holistically.

Mobile app launched by NTA

The National Testing Agency has launched a mobile app with the help of which students can take or practice mock tests on their smartphones. A network of more than 4000 Test Practice Centres has been established to help aspirants, especially from rural areas, with computer-based tests. The students can register themselves online through the NTA website or app.

New pharma policy approved by Haryana

Haryana government approved the Haryana Pharmaceutical Policy 2019. It envisages to establish a state-of-the-art pharma park at Karnal. It aims to develop Haryana into a hub of pharmaceutical manufacturing. Haryana MSME policy 2019 has also been given a nod by the cabinet with an aim to create globally competitive MSMEs in Haryana.

Delhi govt launched 'Zero Fatality Corridor'

Delhi government launched the 'Zero Fatality Corridor' to examine the cause for accidents and crashes on the stretch between Burari Chowk and Bhalswa chowk in Delhi. The initiative will be run in partnership with SaveLIFE Foundation, a leading road safety NGO. The stretch of road selected for the project is three kilometers long and is considered one of the most dangerous areas.

PMAY (U) awards instituted for Implementation

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has instituted the PMAY(U) awards for implementation and Innovation. The Awards will identify and reward the 'Top Performers' in different categories and will encourage others to compete and attain the goal of "Housing for All". A few Special Category awards to give special recognition to States / UTs have also been instituted.

Asiatic Lion Conservation Project launched

A dedicated 'Asiatic Lion Conservation Project' was launched on 8 February 2019. The Asiatic Lion, endemic to Gir landscape of Gujarat, is one of the 21 critically endangered species identified by the Environment Ministry. Asiatic Lion, being listed in Schedule -I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been accorded the highest degree of protection.

PM-KISAN scheme speedy implementation

Union Minister of Agriculture, Radha Mohan Singh asked all states to support the PM-KISAN scheme. Under the scheme, all Small and Marginal farmers (SMF) families having cultivable land up to 2 hectares will be provided income support of Rs.6000 per year. The amount will be provided in three equal instalments of Rs 2000 to farmers.

Programme on Agri Export Policy held in Pune

The first state-level awareness programme on agriculture export policy held in Pune on 2nd February 2019. The Agriculture Export Policy was recently released by the Government of India which aims to reinvigorate the entire value chain. It is framed with a focus on export promotion and agriculture export-oriented production.

Development projects unveiled by PM in J&K

Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a series of development projects in Jammu and Kashmir in order to give a boost to the infrastructure in the state. He also laid the foundation stone of AIIMS at Vijaypur in Samba and announced that 500 seats in the state medical colleges will be added soon. Apart from these, he also laid the foundation stone for construction of 2 hydroelectric project.

Business & Economy

RBI raises collateral-free farm loan limit

The Reserve Bank of India raised the limit for collateral-free agriculture loans to 1.6 lakh from 1 lakh. The increased limit will enhance coverage of small and marginal farmers in the formal credit system. Presently, the banks are mandated to extend collateral-free agriculture loans up to 1 lakh. This limit of 1 lakh was fixed in 2010.

IRDAI imposes fine on United India Insurance

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI) imposed a fine of Rs 9 lakh on state-owned United India Insurance Co (UIIC) Ltd for violating certain procedures. 3 violations were found during the inspection, of which 2 attracted the fine. UIIC is headquartered in Chennai, while IRDAI is in Hyderabad.

SBI fined by RBI

RBI slapped Rs 1 crore penalty on SBI, country's largest lender on 7th Feb 2019 for violating norms. RBI levied the penalty in the exercise of powers conferred under Section 47 A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. SBI was charged for not monitoring the end use of funds in respect of one of its borrowers.

Indirect Tax Ombudsman abolished

The Union Cabinet approved the proposal for Abolition of Institution of Income-Tax Ombudsman and Indirect Tax Ombudsman on 6 Feb 2019. The Cabinet was chaired by PM Narendra Modi. The Institution of Income-Tax Ombudsman was created in the year 2003 in order to deal with the grievances of public related to the settlement of complaints relating to Income Tax.

RBI lowered repo rate to 6.25%

The Reserve Bank of India lowered the repo rate by 25 basis points to 6.25% on 7th February 2019. This is the first time in 17 months that the central bank has cut the rate. The reverse repo rate, too, was

lowered to 6%, and the bank rate to 6.25%. The repo rate is the interest rate at which RBI lends to commercial banks.

CCEA approves creation of Agri-Market Fund

The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved the creation of AgriMarket Infrastructure Fund (AMIF) on 6th Feb 2019. It is being created for the up-gradation and development of agricultural marketing infrastructure in Regulated Wholesale Markets and Gramin Agricultural Markets. A corpus of Rs. 2000 crore has been approved for the creation of the fund.

Axis, Syndicate, UCO Banks penalised by RBI

The RBI imposed monetary penalties on UCO, Axis, and Syndicate Banks over deficiencies in complying with different regulatory norms. A penalty of Rs 2 crore each was imposed on Axis and UCO bank and an additional penalty of Rs 20 lakh was imposed on Axis Bank. A penalty of Rs 1 crore was imposed on the Syndicate Bank.

Swiggy acquires Kint

Swiggy has acquired a Bangalore-based AI startup Kint.io for an undisclosed amount. The founding members of Kint.io Jagannathan and Pavithra will join the Swiggy team as per the deal. Kint.io was founded in 2014 and specializes in applying deep learning and computer vision for object recognition in videos.

Fitch Group projects fiscal deficit to slip

Fitch Solutions, an arm of the Fitch group has projected the government's fiscal deficit to slip to 3.6% of GDP in 2019-2020 fiscal. It said that 2019-20 Budget will show a strong populist bent in the run-up to the General election due by May 2019. The central government is planning to spend a total of Rs 27.8 lakh crore in fiscal 2019-20.

Fino Bank partners with Suryoday Bank

Fino Payments Bank partnered with Suryoday Small Finance Bank on 4th February to launch a sweep account facility. The partnership will help FPB address the issue of deposit limit that the payment banks are facing at the moment. This would also allow customers to seamlessly transfer excess amount from their account in FPB to SSFB.

Increase in steel export by 16.7% in 2017-18

The total steel export has seen an increase by 16.7% in 2017-18. The export of the finished steel was 8.245 MT in 2016-17 and 9.620 MT in 2017-18. The contribution of non-alloy steel segment was 8.727 MT.

19% growth in India's tourism sector

India's tourism sector has registered growth over 19% in 2018, as told by the Union Minister KJ Alphons. India has been ranked third in the tourism sector as per the World Travel and Tourism Council report 2018. The tourism sector fetched 234 billion US \$ from both domestic and foreign tourists.

New FDI norms for E-commerce policy

India's new e-commerce policy came into effect From February 1, 2019. A new set of policy rules had been formed for the ecommerce companies. It bars online retailers from selling products through vendors in which they have an equity interest. It also bars them from entering into exclusive deals with brands for selling products only on their platforms.

Sports

Jeremy Lalrinnunga won silver medal

On 8 February 2019, Jeremy Lalrinnunga won the silver medal in men's 67- kilogram category at the EGAT's Cup International Weightlifting Championships in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Ruben Katoatau of Kiribati took the bronze with a total lift of 285 kilograms. Saikhom Mirabai Chanu won gold in the women's 48-kilogram category with a total lift of 192 kilograms.

Mandhana scored India's fastest T20 Fifty

Indian opener Smriti Mandhana made the fastest fifty for India in women's T20s. The left-handed batswoman struck a half-century in just 24 balls. She made the history in the 1st T20I against New Zealand at Westpac Stadium in Wellington.

Ramit Tandon wins Seattle Open

Ramit Tandon won the final of the Seattle Open, a Squash event by defeating Egyptian Mohamed Al Sherbini on 2nd February, 2019. This is his fourth overall title in his career and first PSA title in 2019. He was ranked 58th in the world but was seeded for the Seattle Open.

Sana Mir: 1st woman cricketer to play 100 T20s

Sana Mir from Pakistan became the first Asian oman cricketer to play 100 T20 international matches. She achieved the milestone during the final T20 against West Indies in Karachi. Overall, she is the 6th woman cricketer to complete a century of T20 internationals. Daendra Dottin from West Indies ranks first with a total of 109 T20Is to her name.

Haryana Hammers won PWL

Haryana Hammers won the 4th edition of the Pro Wrestling League defeating Punjab Royals by 6-3 in the summit clash. Padma Shri and Asian Games gold medalist Bajrang scored 11-0 win over Rajneesh. Aleksander Khotsianivski of Ukraine put Haryana on the road of victory by winning the 125 kg super heavyweight bout against Korey Jarvis by 3-0.

World No. 1 ODI Batswoman: Smriti Mandhana

Smriti Mandhana has attained number one ranking in the ICC ODI batting rankings. She is now above the Australians Meg Lanning and Ellyse Perry after scoring an unbeaten 90 in 3 match series and her fourth ODI century. Among the bowlers, Poonam Yadav and Deepti Sharma have secured 8th and 9th rankings respectively.

Defence

Successful Flight Test of SFDR

Defence Research and Development Organisation successfully flight tested the second indigenously propulsion based missile system from Chandipur, Odisha on 8 February 2019. The missile accelerated to achieve ramjet Mach number successfully. DRDO is responsible for the development and production of defence systems for the Indian military.

NWM to be inaugurated on Feb 25

The National War Museum will be inaugurated on 25th February 2019 at India Gate by PM Narendra Modi. It is built in the memory of 26,000 war heroes of the Indian Forces and is built on the sprawling lawns of India Gate. The NWM was first proposed by the armed forces in 1960.

'Exercise Rahat' to be conducted soon

Sapta Shakti Command will conduct 'Exercise Rahat' on 11-12th February 2019 on behalf of the Indian Army. It is a Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise. Its curtain raiser was organised on 4th February 2019 at the Jaipur Military Station. The exercise will be conducted in 3 places simultaneously, Jaipur, Alwar, and Kota.

Awards & Honours

Francois conferred with Légion d'Honneur

Father Francois Laborde, a 92-year-old priest from West Bengal, was conferred the Légion d'Honneur (Legion of Honour). The award was given to him for his work for specially-abled children. Father Laborde had set up Howrah South Point, an organisation working for the development of specially-abled children. Légion d'Honneur is the highest civilian award of France.

NFDC won award

The National Film Development Corporation of India has been declared winner under the Mini ratna category by the Ministry of MSME. This was done as a part of the Ministry to felicitate CPSEs to recognise their exemplary work towards promotion of SC/ST entrepreneurs. NFDC was incorporated in the year 1975 and was formed for the integrated development of the Indian Film Industry.

Uniphore won Aegis Graham Bell Award 2019

Uniphore was announced the winner of the Aegis Graham Bell Award 2019 in 'Innovations and Data Science' category for innovating 'auMina'. It was the 9th edition of the award ceremony and was hosted in Panaji, Goa on 4th February, 2019. The Aegis Graham Bell Award has been promoting entrepreneurship and innovations since 2010 in Information and Communication Technology field.

Aribam Shyam returns Padma award in protest

Noted Manipuri filmmaker Aribam Shyam Sharma returned his Padma Shri Award on February 3, 2019. He received the award in 2006 and returned it to mark a protest against the Citizen (Amendment) Bill. Sharma is a recipient of several national awards for his films Sangai, Ishanou, Imagi Ningthe, etc.

CPSEs felicitated by Ministry of MSME

Some Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) were felicitated by the Minister of State (I/C) for MSME, Giriraj Singh on 5th Feb 2019. They were recognised for their exemplary work under the Public Procurement Policy for the promotion of SC/ST entrepreneurs. 14 CPSEs were felicitated under various categories and around 70 participated in the event.

Days & Events

Deworming day observed on February 8

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare conducted its eighth round of National Deworming Day (NDD) across the country on 8 February 2019. The aim of the NDD was to reduce the prevalence of parasitic intestinal worms among children. During the programme, Albendazole tablets were orally administered to pre-school and school-going children in the age group of 1 to 19 years.

Mega Silk Event held in New Delhi

Ministry of Textiles in association with Central Silk Board, organised an event, 'Surging Silk - Accomplishment and way forward', in New Delhi on 9 February 2019. The event is being organised to highlight the growth of the silk industry in India over the past 4 years. It focuses on the distribution of Buniyaad Tasar Silk Reeling Machines to women reelers from tribal areas.

National Road Safety Week launched

The National Road Safety Week was launched on February 4, 2019 by the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. The aim is to generate awareness and sensitize people about safe road usage. A motor car rally covering a distance of 7250 km will also be flagged off to commemorate 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

4th February: World Cancer Day

World Cancer Day is observed every year on 4th February to raise awareness and encourage prevention and treatment of cancer. It was founded by UICC with an aim to significantly reduce deaths and illness caused by cancer. Nearly 9.6 million people die every year because of cancer. Theme for 2019 - 'I Am and I Will'.