

Current Affairs - May 2019

Month Type



- 132 Current Affairs were found in Period - **May 1 - 10, 2019** for Type - **All**

Appointments

- ▶ Archery Association of India (AAI) named Sunil Sharma as its acting president, to start election process of New President. It was followed after resignation of BVP Rao as President of AAI.
- ▶ Boubou Cisse has been named new Prime Minister of Mali (West Africa).
- ▶ Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) to Central government, Krishnamurthy Subramanian is appointed as 12th member of Advisory Council of 15th Finance Commission,
 1. Finance Commission is constituted under article 280 of Constitution by President of India. It mainly gives its recommendations on tax devolution. It is appointed for a period of five years and comprise of five member including one chairman and four other members.
 2. First FC was constituted under K.C. Neogy on 6th April, 1952. 15th Finance Commission was constituted in November 2017, to be active between April 2020 - March 2025. It is chaired by N. K. Singh. 14th Finance Commission is headed by Y V Reddy.
- ▶ Former SC Judge KS Radhakrishnan appointed as Member of Commonwealth Secretariat Arbitral Tribunal, London. He will serve 4-year term from till May 2023. Commonwealth Secretariat Arbitral Tribunal resolves disputes of the Commonwealth organisations.
- ▶ Former Sri Lanka Cricketer Kumar Sangakkara appointed as President of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) in England. He became first non-British to head the Club.
- ▶ Igor Stimac (Croatia) has been appointed as Indian men's football team coach.
- ▶ India's Jagjit Padvadia re-elected to International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) for another five-year term beginning 2nd March, 2020.
- ▶ Laurentino Cortizo has been appointed as New president of Panama (Central America).
 1. Panama is located on Isthmus of Panama (narrow bridge of land connecting North and South America).
- ▶ Misc. Appointments (May 2019) -
 1. SK Ghotia Appointed as Chief of Indian Air Force's Training Command.
 2. Godavarthi VenkataSrinivas appointed as Indian Ambassador to Senegal.
 3. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation appointed Sanjay Ubale as its policy director for India.
 4. Bombay Stock Exchange appointed Jayshree Vyas as its first independent woman director.
 5. Flipkart-owned fashion e-commerce platform Myntra appointed Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma as its first ever official brand ambassadors.
 6. Rakesh Sharma (Bajaj Auto Executive Director) elected as VP (Vice President) of International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (based in Geneva).
 7. Karnataka Bank appointed Balachandra YV and Gokuldas Pai as Chief Operating Officer (COO) and Chief Business Officer (CBO), respectively.
 8. Subhash Chand has been appointed as next Ambassador of India to State of Eritrea (East Africa).
 9. LIC Mutual Fund appointed Dinesh Pangtey as Its Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
 10. Merchant service and UPI payments app BharatPe appointed Bollywood actor Salman Khan as its brand ambassador.

11. Ms. Padmaja has been appointed as next Indian Ambassador to Republic of Oceanic Nation Nauru. Its a very small nation with area just 21 KM Square.
12. Jeffrey Rosen has been appointed as United States' New deputy attorney general, replacing Rod Rosenstein.
10. ▶ Naruhito became Japan's new Emperor after historic abdication of his father Akihito (First Abdication in over 200 years). It marks end of *Heisei* Era and Beginnig of *Reiwa* Era. Naruhito is Japan's 126th emperor. Term "Reiwa" means "Beautiful Harmony".
11. ▶ New Chief Justices Appointed in Different High Courts (as recommended by Supreme Court Collegium recently) -
 1. S Ravindra Bhat - Rajasthan High Court.
 2. A S Oka - Karnataka High Court.
 3. Ramachandra Menon - Chhattisgarh High Court
12. ▶ Serbia's Dragan Mihailovic has been appointed as new head coach of the Indian Men's Volleyball team by Volleyball Federation of India (VFI).
13. ▶ Stevo Pendarovski has been elected as president of North Macedonia.
14. ▶ Thailand crowned its new King Maha Vajiralongkorn, marking first ascension of a new monarch in seven decades. King Vajiralongkorn is tenth monarch of Chakri dynasty, which has reigned since 1782. Last coronation was held in 1950 for king's father Bhumibol Adulyadej.
15. ▶ US Air Force General Tod D. Wolters has been appointed as top military officer of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), headquartered in Belgium.

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Awards

1. ▶ Article 'Coalgate 2.0', authored by Nileena M. S. and published in March 2018 issue of 'The Caravan' magazine, won Asian College of Journalism's Award for Investigative Journalism, 2018.
 1. It investigates allotment of 'captive coal blocks' in Parba East and Kanta Basan regions of Chhattisgarh. It explores deforestation, re locations of people, loss of livelihood, and denial of forest rights to tribals.
 2. It is an excellent example of investigative journalism in field of financial reporting.
 3. ACJ Award for Investigative Journalismit is instituted by Asian College of Journalism, with support of Media Development Foundation.
 4. It comprises of trophy, a citation and a cash prize of 200000.
2. ▶ Canadian Rapper Drake has set a record with most wins ever, after winning 12 honours at Billboard Music Awards. He surpassed Taylor Swift's record of 23 awards, to become top award recipient in Billboard Music Awards history.
3. ▶ Former ISRO chairman A S Kiran Kumar has been conferred with France's highest civilian honour, Chevalier de l'Ordre national de la Legion d'Honneur, for his contribution to India-France space cooperation.
4. ▶ Indian spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar presented with 'Order of St. George' Award 2019, as part of the Commemorative Feast at the Puthuppally St. George Orthodox Church in Kottayam, Kerala.
5. ▶ Indian-origin journalist in South Africa, G D Robert Govender has been honoured with V K Krishna Menon Award 2019 in United Kingdom for his contribution as pioneer of decolonised journalism. He is first person to be honoured with this award posthumously.
 1. V K Krishna Menon was India's first High Commissioner to Britain (United Kingdom). He holds record for longest speech (8 hours) before UN Security Council (UNSC) while defending India's sovereignty over Kashmir.
6. ▶ Industrial Awards (May 2019) -
 1. Noted Padma Awardee cardiac surgeon Devi Prasad Shetty has been awarded 27th P.C. Chandra Puraskar, the annual national award from P.C. Chandra Group at Biswa Bangla Convention Centre.
7. ▶ 'Team Caeli' from India comprising of three students namely Bharat Sundal, Aakash Bhadana and Vasu Kaushik emerged as First Runner-up (second position) in Microsoft's Imagine Cup World Championship final in Seattle (US).
 1. They won for developing "Caeli", world's first smart automated anti-pollution and drug delivery mask. Caeli has several intelligent automated features, specially designed for asthmatic patients.
 2. For this innovation, the team had earlier won first position in Asia Regional Final contest held in Sydney in February 2019.
 3. Microsoft's Imagine Cup World Championship is held every year to celebrate top student teams that bring and compete with their biggest, boldest ideas to life.

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Books

1. ▶ Pakistani Cricketer Shahid Afridi's autobiography titled, 'Game Changer' has been released.

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Days

1. ▶ May 1 - Labour Day, also known as International Worker's Day and May Day. In India, first celebration of the Labour Day was organised in Madras by Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan on May 1, 1923.
 1. Labour Day commemorates happenings of May 4, 1886, the Haymarket affair (Haymarket Massacre) in the Chicago. It was a big event as workers were on the general strike for their eight-hour workday, with protests getting violent.
2. ▶ May 1 - Maharashtra Day and Gujarat Day. In 1960, Bombay Reorganization Act was passed by India's Parliament to divide multilingual state of Bombay into Gujarat and Maharashtra. Legislation came into effect on May 1, 1960.
3. ▶ May 2 - World Tuna Day. May 2, 2019 is also observed as World Password Day (Observed on first Thursday of May).
4. ▶ May 3 - World Press Freedom Day. It is being jointly organized by UNESCO, African Union Commission and Government of Ethiopia. 2019 Theme is "Media for Democracy: Journalism and Elections in Times of Disinformation".
 1. In December 1993, UNGA following recommendation of UNESCO's General Conference proclaimed 3 May as World Press Freedom Day.
 2. On this occasion, World Press Freedom Prize are given annually (also known as UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize). In 2019, award would be shared by two jailed Myanmar journalists 'Wa Lone' and 'Kyaw Soe Oo' who reported on alleged human rights violations in state of Rakhine, Myanmar.
5. ▶ May 4 - International Firefighters' Day.
6. ▶ May 5, 2019 is World Laughter Day in 2019. It is annually observed on first Sunday of May. May 5 is also observed as Birth Anniversary of Former President of India, Giani Zail Singh.
7. ▶ May 7 - World Asthma Day. 2019 theme is '*STOP for Asthma*'. Here STOP stands for Symptom evaluation, Test Response, Observe and assess AND Proceed to adjust treatment.
 1. May 7 was also observed as Basava Jayanthi, on birth anniversary of Basavanna, a Noted Hindu Kannada poet of 12th century.
 2. May 7 is also observed as World Athletics Day.
 3. May 7 is also Birth Anniversary of India's first Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore. He started the Vishwa Bharati University in Shantiniketan. His birth anniversary is also known as Pochise Boishakh 2019.
8. ▶ May 8 - World Red Cross Day, also known as Red Crescent Day. It commemorates birth anniversary of Henri Dunant (born on 8 May 1828), the founder of Red Cross and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
 1. May 8 is also observed as 'World Thalassaemia Day'. 2019 theme is "Universal access to quality thalassaemia healthcare services: Building bridges with and for patient".
 2. May 8 is also observed as *Victory in Europe Day*, Marking formal end of World War II in Europe, when allied powers defeated German leader Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Forces, On May 8, 1945.

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Defence

1. ▶ 17th Indo-French joint naval exercise Varuna 19.1 (First part) conducted off Goa coast.
 1. 2nd part, Varuna 19.2, is scheduled to be held at end of May in Djibouti.
2. ▶ INS Vela, India's 4th Scorpene class submarine Under Project 75, has been rolled out for Trials, made at Mazagon Dockyards Limited (MDL).
 1. Under this Project, 2 remaining Scorpene submarines under developmen are Vagir and Vagsheer.
 2. A contract was signed in 2005, between French DCNS, and Mazgaon Dock Limited under Indian Navy's Project-75 for supply of six submarines.
 3. Previously deployed submarines under the project are - INS Kalvari, INS Khanderi and INS Karanj.
3. ▶ Indian Air Force (IAF) formally received its first AH-64E (I)-Apache Guardian helicopter at Boeing facility in Mesa, Arizona, USA.

1. In September 2015, India and US signed a deal worth \$3 billion for inducting 22 Apaches Helicopters in Indian Air Force (IAF) by March 2020.
2. AH-64E Apache is flown by US Army and is one of leading multi-role attack helicopters globally, often dubbed as “flying tank”.
4. ▶ Indian Navy ships INS Kolkata and INS Shakti joined six day long ‘Group Sail’ with naval ships of USA, Japan and Philippines in South China Sea (SCS).
5. ▶ Indian Navy’s missile destroyer INS Ranjit has been decommissioned after 36 years of service. It is first of five Rajput class destroyer to go out of service.
 1. The ship is third of the five Kashin-class destroyers built by erstwhile Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).
6. ▶ Ministry of Defence approved Indian Navy’s proposal to acquire 10 Kamov-31 helicopters from Russia, in deal worth 3,600 crores. Its a follow-on order (i.e. not a new order as Indian Navy already has a fleet of 12 of these Kamov-31 choppers).

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Economy

1. ▶ RBI enhanced housing loan limits for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Small Finance Banks (SFBs) for eligibility under priority sector lending, to give them a level playing field with other Scheduled Commercial Banks. Now, housing loans can be given by RRBs and SFBs to individuals up to INR 35 lakh in metropolitan centers (with population of 10 lakh and above) and INR 25 lakh in other centers.
2. ▶ As per Reports, Direct Tax collections fell short by INR 82000 crores during 2018-19 Collections were 11.18 Lakh Crores, against target of 12 lakh crores. Total tax collection were 13.4 % more than previous fiscal but fell short of revised target of 18 %.
3. ▶ Dredging Corporation of India Limited (DCIL) signed MoU with Water & Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) Limited, to recognize suitable future projects and carry out geo-technical investigation and engineering consultancy in fields like water resources, power and infrastructure, port and harbour dredging.
4. ▶ GST revenue collected in April 2019 was 113865 crores, highest ever monthly receipts ever in GST regime. IGST (Integrated Goods and Services Tax) has biggest share with 54733 crores.
5. ▶ Government stated that 6.49 Crore Income Tax Returns were filed During Assesment Year 2018-19, compared to 5.47 crore ITRs filed for Assessment Year 2017-18. It shows substantial increase of 18.7 %.
6. ▶ Income tax department and Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) signed agreement to facilitate exchange of data, To nab tax evaders and reduce black money generation.
7. ▶ India Ratings downgraded YES bank’s long-term rating to ‘IND AA-’ with a negative outlook, while reaffirming short-term rating. ICRA also downgraded long-term ratings of Yes Bank.
8. ▶ LIC Housing Finance (LIC HFL) launched ‘Udyam’, a skilling center in Bengaluru, in association with Lok Bharti Education Society.
9. ▶ RBI imposed a monetary penalty on five Pre-Paid Payment Instrument (PPI) issuers for violating its regulatory guidelines under provisions of Payment and Settlement Systems Act 2007.
 1. These Include Vodafone m-pesa, PhonePe, Western Union Financial Services Inc AND MoneyGram Payment Systems.
 2. Three types of PPIs issued in India -
 1. Closed System - Issued by an entity and do not permit fund transfer or cash withdrawal, such as gift cards (Amazon etc). They do not require RBI approval.
 2. Semi-closed - Issued by banks / non-banks (authorized by RBI) and are not restricted to a single entity and can be used for fund transfer, Like e-wallets Including Mobikwik, PayTm.
 3. Open System - Issued only by banks (approved by RBI) and are used at any merchant for purchase of G&S and also for cash withdrawals at ATMs, Points of Sale (PoS) terminals and Business Correspondents (BCs). Ex- Vodafone mPesa.
10. ▶ SEBI has barred National Stock Exchange (NSE) from accessing securities market for 6 months and also imposed a fine of 1000 crores INR on NSE in co-location case.
 1. Co-Location refers to system wherein a broker’s server is kept in exchange premises to reduce latency (processing delay), while executing trades.
 2. In 2015, SEBI received complaints against NSE in which it was alleged that system used by NSE to disseminate data through co-location facilities was partial, as it allowed users to get information before others and thereby created an information asymmetry between users.

3. SEBI's found NSE guilty of committing fraudulent trade practices and it also did not exercised requisite due diligence while putting in place TBT (tick-by-tick data feed) architecture, thus affecting market fairness.
11. ▶ Standard Life (Mauritius Holdings) will sell its stake of 1.78% in HDFC Life Insurance Company for Rs 1,404 crores. It aims to achieve minimum public shareholding in company as per Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) regulations.
12. ▶ Vodafone Idea signed a 5-year IT outsourcing deal with IBM, to support its merger synergy by decreasing IT related costs. It will offer Vodafone Idea with a hybrid cloud based digital platform to enable engagement with its 387 million subscribers, boosting business efficiency.

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International

1. ▶ 2 Indians named among 115 peacekeepers from 43 nations, who were honored by UN for sacrificing their lives in line of duty -
 1. Jitender was an Indian police officer deployed to UN Organisation Stabilisation Mission in Democratic Republic of Congo.
 2. Shikha Garg was a consultant with UN Development Programme (UNDP), attached with India's Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. She was killed in Ethiopian Airlines (ET 302) plane crash.
2. ▶ A Japanese aerospace start-up Interstellar Technology Inc. launched a first privately developed rocket 'Momo-3' into space. It reached about 110 km in altitude before falling into Pacific Ocean after 10 minutes of flight.
3. ▶ According to Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Iraq remained India's top crude oil supplier for second year in a row.
 1. India is world's third largest importer of crude oil (7% of total crude oil imports) after China (world's largest importer with 20.2% of total crude oil imports) and USA (13.8%). India's crude oil imports meets 80 % its oil needs.
 2. India imported 207.3 MT (Metric Tons) of crude oil in 2018-19, down from 220.4 MT in 2017-18.
 3. Iraq meets more than 20% of India's oil needs in 2018-19 fiscal year.
 4. Saudi Arabia has traditionally been India's top oil import source, but in 2017-18 fiscal year it was dethroned by Iraq for the first time.
 5. Iran was third largest crude oil supplier to India, even after US sanctions on Iran.
 6. UAE and Venezuela are at 4th and 5th largest crude oil suppliers to India.
4. ▶ According to US Commission on International Religious Freedom 2019 report, India saw an "overall deterioration of religious freedom conditions in 2018".
 1. India continues to remain a Tier II country, in same list since 2009. Tier II countries are where 'violations engaged in or tolerated by government are serious and characterized by at least one of the elements of systematic, ongoing, and egregious (horrible)'.
 2. Other Tier 2 countries are Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Laos, Malaysia and Turkey.
 3. As per report, Minorities conditions have deteriorated in India. Although, Chairperson of Commission, Tenzin Dorjee argued that India is an open society with a robust democratic and judiciary system where religious harmony exists.
5. ▶ According to a recent UN report, Climate change and rising sea levels will wipe out 'The Sundarbans'.
 1. If greenhouse gas emissions continue at current rate, atmosphere would become warmer by 1.5C by 2040. This would lead to rising sea level and existential threat to the Sundarbans. It would also possess threat for existence of Royal Bengal Tigers.
 2. By 2070, there will be not be any suitable habitats of tiger remaining in Bangladesh Sundarbans.
 3. Sundarbans are 10,000 square kilometres of marshy mangroves ecosystem shared between Bangladesh and India.
6. ▶ Afghanistan convened "Loya Jirga", a four day long grand assembly or massive meeting for delegates from across country to discuss war and efforts of US to forge a peace deal with Taliban. During this peace summit in Kabul, Afghanistan called for permanent ceasefire.
 1. Loya Jirga is a centuries-old tradition in Afghanistan which is usually convened at times of national crisis or to settle national issues. It means "grand council" in Pashto.
7. ▶ As per Asian Development Outlook 2019 report, Asia-Pacific region is expected to grow at 5.7% in 2019 and 5.6 % in 2020.
8. ▶ As per digital marketing platform SEMrush, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is 2nd most followed politician in world on social media with a total audience of 110.9 million on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. World's most followed politician is former US President Barack Obama with a total following of 182.7 million.
9. ▶ Asian Development Bank (ADB) launched 5\$ billion Action Plan for Healthy Oceans and Sustainable Blue Economies for the Asia and Pacific region. It specifically aims at achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) # 14 - Life Below Water. It was

launched at 52nd Annual Meeting of ADB's Board of Governors, in Fiji.

10. ▶ Australian flight carrier Qantas operated world's first zero waste commercial flight named QF739 from Sydney to Adelaide which disposed all waste through compost, reuse or recycle.
11. ▶ Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) signed MoU cooperation on projects related to e-mobility.
12. ▶ Chinese Smartphone Maker Huawei overtook Apple to claim No. 2 spot in smartphones in first quarter of FY 2019-20, with Samsung at top.
13. ▶ Egyptian archaeologists discovered 2 ancient tombs at Pyramids of Giza dating back 4,500 years ago, found near Egypt's famous pyramids on Giza plateau near Cairo. As per Egypt archaeologists it may be dated back to fifth dynasty period - between 2563 - 2423 BC.
14. ▶ Facilities management provider UDS acquired majority stake in Matrix Business Services, which operates in the business assurance and background verification segment. This includes buying out entire 19.77% stake of Kotak Mahindra Investments and 2.67% of Mahindra & Mahindra Contech and balance 52.56% from other shareholders.
15. ▶ Global payments brand Mastercard will invest \$1 billion in India over 5 years. \$350 million would be invested in setting up a local payments processing center as per RBI's mandate to store all payments data locally. This is first such processing center of Mastercard outside of US.
16. ▶ Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA) Council launched a rating tool 'GRIHA for Existing Day Schools' to evaluate environmental performance of existing schools across India.
 1. GRIHA Council is a registered society for interaction on scientific and administrative issues related to sustainable habitats in Indian context. It was founded by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).
17. ▶ India re-elected as an observer to intergovernmental forum Arctic Council, during 11th Arctic Council ministerial meeting held at Rovaniemi in Finland.
 1. Arctic Council was established in 1996 by Ottawa Declaration. Its Headquarter in Tromso (Norway). It has 8 Members - Russia, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Denmark (representing Greenland and Faroe Islands), Canada and United States.
18. ▶ India will make its 2nd appearance in world's oldest Biennale Art event held in Venice (Italy). India's Participation in event will be after a gap of 8 years, with theme for Indian Pavilion as '150 years of Mahatma Gandhi'. It will take place for 6 months between May - November 19.
19. ▶ India's Konkan Railways and Nepal's Department of Railways signed deal to supply two 1600 HP Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) train sets. Nepal will procure two diesel-operated trains within five months, Manufactured by Integrated Coach Factory in Chennai.
20. ▶ Iran announced to continue its low-level uranium enrichment in line with its nuclear deal with world powers, even after US forcing Iran to stop producing low-enriched uranium and halt expanding its only nuclear power plant.
 1. US efforts to impose isolation on Tehran began in 2018 when US withdrew from nuclear deal which US and other world powers negotiated with Iran in 2015.
21. ▶ Iran announced to pull out of some commitments under 2015 international nuclear agreement signed with world powers, called Joint Comprehensive Plan Of Action (JCPOA). Including -
 1. Iran will stop suppressing its stocks of enriched uranium and heavy water, as these are needed by certain types of reactor for nuclear fission to take place. As per Iran, such action is required as European Union (EU) and other countries did not have power to resist US pressure.
 2. Iran gave 60 days to remaining countries of deal, to implement their commitments, mainly in fields of banking and oil.
 3. As a response, USA has imposed harsher sanctions on iron, copper, steel and aluminium industry of Iran, aimed at stopping Iran from pursuing its nuclear interests.
 4. Earlier, US In May 2018, announced its pull out of from JCPOA, re-imposing US sanctions on Iran. US also announced to cancel waivers to countries (including India) who continue to purchase oil from Iran.
22. ▶ Microsoft launched *ElectionGuard* free open-source Software Development Kit(SDK) to help nations to carry out secure and verifiable voting, as a supplement to paper ballots. It is verifiable as it allows voters and third-party organizations to verify election results.
23. ▶ Microsoft unveiled fully-managed Azure Blockchain Service that would simplify formation, management, and governance so that businesses can focus on workflow logic and application development.
24. ▶ Pakistan announced to observe Pakistan Air Force's (PAF) retaliatory action on 27th February 2019 against India as 'Operation Swift Retort'. Which, as per Pakistan, demonstrates their firm resolve, capacity and capability in thwarting (opposing successfully)

the criminal designs of adversary.

1. After Pulwama Terror Attack on 14 February 2019, in which over 40 CRPF Personnel were martyred, a global outrage rose against Pakistan and its terror friendly nature.
 2. India struck several terror bases in Pakistan, on February 26, Killing over 300 Militants and neutralizing major training camp in Balakot.
 3. As a response, Pakistan sent over 20 F-16 American Jets to carry out strikes on Indian military bases. The threats were neutralized by Indian forces and no harms were conceived on Indian Side.
 4. Also, Indian Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman shot down PAF's F-16 fighter aircraft in the process.
25. ▶ Parliament of Singapore passed *Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Bill*, to fight menace of fake news, empowering authorities to order the removal of any content reported to be fake. It has received fierce criticism from tech giants and media and rights groups.
1. It will enable government to order social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter to put up warnings next to posts that the authorities deem to be false or get them taken down in extreme cases.
 2. Under new laws, violation can be subjected to a hefty fine or jail term. Companies could face a fine of up to 735,000 US dollars, individuals could face jail terms of up to 10 years.
26. ▶ Republic of Ireland became second country (After Britain) to declare a climate emergency, aimed at undertaking measures to enable becoming carbon-neutral by 2030.
27. ▶ Russian President Vladimir Putin signed into law a "sovereign internet" bill which will allow Russian authorities to isolate country's internet.
1. The move is being publicly denounced by all rights groups in country. Russian lawmakers support new law as deeming it necessary to ensure security of Russia's online networks.
 2. It is being criticized as a vaguely worded bill which gives new censorship powers to government monitors and is aimed at restricting information and communication online. It will allow greater surveillance by Russian intelligence agencies, and increase ability of state authorities to control information.
28. ▶ Senegal parliament approved a constitutional reform to remove post of prime minister. Parliament also supported legislative alterations, whose objective was to prevent president from dissolving National Assembly. In doing so, it could no longer raise a motion of no confidence against government. Now supreme and sole authority will be the President, currently Macky Sall (serving his 2nd term).
29. ▶ Social Platform Facebook chose London as centre for rolling out digital payments service WhatsApp Pay globally. It might be due to WhatsApp being far more popular in UK than USA.
30. ▶ Stockholm International peace research institute (SIPRI) launched a new initiative named Global Registry of Violent Deaths (GReVD) to establish annual number of violent deaths worldwide. GReVD will enable monitoring of progress on world's commitment to 'significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere' by 2030 as set out in Goal # 16 of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
31. ▶ Telecom major Bharti Airtel and Hughes Communications India (HCIL) will combine their VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) satellite communications operations in India.
1. HCIL is a broadband satellite service operator in India, and offers a range of broadband networking solutions.
 2. Combined entity will benefit from enhanced scale, improved operational efficiencies and wider market reach.
 3. VSAT is provision of data services using satellites and is used extensively by banks and ATMs.
32. ▶ The Netherlands emerged as 3rd largest FDI investor in India during 2017-18, with investments of \$2.67 billion across sectors. Netherlands was also 2nd largest destination for foreign investment by Indian companies, after Singapore, with investments worth \$12.8 billion in 2017.
33. ▶ UK emerged at top in terms of attracting Indian FDI with 52 projects, ahead of US (51) and UAE (32), in 2018, as per London & Partners (L&P), Mayor of London's promotional agency. Also, London accounted for over 60 % of Indian Investment in UK in 2018.
34. ▶ UK parliament became first national legislative body in world to declare a climate change emergency. It also calls for government to work towards carbon neutrality before 2050.
35. ▶ UN Report 'Global Assessment', stated that among approximated 8 million plant, insect and animal species, around 1 million is at risk of extinction within next few decades, as a direct result of human activities. Study was launched by Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). Report also said that over 40 % of amphibian species and over 33% of all marine mammals are threatened.

36. ▶ UN Security Council (UNSC) designated Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar as a “global terrorist” after China lifted its prolonged hold on proposal to blacklist him. It is being seen as a huge diplomatic win for India. China has been repeatedly blocking the resolution, despite its backing by other world powers.
37. ▶ US Air Force tested a laser system called Self-Protect High Energy Laser Demonstrator (SHiELD) at US Army’s White Sands Missile range in New Mexico, successfully shooting down multiple air-launched missiles while in flight.
38. ▶ USA government unveiled ‘Global Health Security Strategy’, as an effort which outlines coordinated US approach to help improve world’s ability in stopping deadly outbreaks even before they spread globally.
 1. Its a first of its kind strategy that seeks to detect, prevent, and respond to threats from various infectious diseases occurring naturally or accidentally. It defines actions that US administration will undertake by adopting a whole-of-government approach to health security.
39. ▶ United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed 17 global figures as new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) advocates, It Includes which includes China’s Alibaba chief Jack Ma and Indian actress Dia Mirza.
 1. SDG Advocates are globally influential public figures who are committed to inspiring greater ambition, raising awareness, and pushing for faster action on SDGs.
 2. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) SDGs were born at UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro in 2012. SDGs replaced Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which were active from 2000-2015.
 3. They were adopted by world leaders in September 2015.
40. ▶ United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) released a report on sand mining and its consumption, titled *Sand and sustainability: Finding new solutions for environmental governance of global sand resources*.
 1. Report said that global demand for sand and gravel is at 40 to 50 billion tonnes per year. It also highlights the issues caused by illegal sand mining from rivers such as flooding, rising level of pollution, lowering of water aquifers and worse drought occurrences.
 2. China and India head the list of critical hotspots for sand extraction impacts in rivers, lakes and on coastlines, most likely because these countries also lead globally on infrastructure and construction.
 3. 3 major strategies emerged that could lay new foundations for improved governance of sand resources in 2019 and thereafter
 1. Avoiding unnecessary natural sand consumption in construction;
 2. Using alternative materials to replace natural sand in construction; and
 3. Reducing sand extraction impacts with existing standards and best practices.
41. ▶ World Bank will provide 545 Million USD grants for cyclone-ravaged southern African countries - including Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi.
42. ▶ World Health organization collaborated with International Food and Beverage Alliance (IFBA) to eliminate industrially produced trans fat (iTFA) from food supply worldwide by 2023.
 1. Trans fat-intake leads to coronary heart disease, causing over 5 Lakh deaths annually.
 2. It aims to make sure that amount of industrial trans fat in their products does not go beyond 2 gram of iTFA per 100 gram fat/oil globally by 2023. It aligns with WHO’s mission of its REPLACE action package, launched in 2018.

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Meetings

1. ▶ India hosted a World Trade Organisation (WTO) Ministerial meeting of developing countries in New Delhi.
 1. Participants Also included 6 Least Developed Countries - Benin, Bangladesh, Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Uganda, Malawi. Sixteen developing countries also attended the Meet.
 2. Its an effort to bring developing countries and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) on one platform and to share common concerns on various issues.
 3. WTO’s 12th Ministerial Conference will be held in Kazakhstan in June 2020.

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National

1. ▶ BSNL became first telecom operator to start optical fibre-based high-speed broadband service in Pulwama (J & K) with launch of 'Bharat Fibre', as first such FTTH (fibre-to-the-home) service deployment in (Kashmir) Valley.

2. ▶ CSIR Scientists carried out first ever genetic study on people of Lakshadweep Islands.
 1. They studied major islands of Kadmat, Andorth, Chetlat, Agatti, Kalpeni, Bitra, Kiltan and Minicoy of Lakshadweep.
 2. It shows that majority of human ancestry in Island of Lakshadweep is largely derived from South Asia with minor influences from East and West Eurasia, as expected earlier.
 3. It did not found any evidence of early human migration through Lakshadweep islands.
3. ▶ Central government asked to make it mandatory for all EVs to use the green number plates, irrespective of year of buying. It will help provide preferential treatment to vehicles with no carbon emissions, including parking, free entry in congested areas and concession high tolls.
4. ▶ Chhattisgarh police for first time inducted women commandos in District Reserve Guard (DRG), its frontline anti-Naxal force, with 30 women troops.
5. ▶ Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) made several observations about FAME II scheme introduced by Government to boost adoption of electric and hybrid vehicles in India.
 1. It estimates that India can save 64% of anticipated road-based mobility-related energy demand and 37% of carbon emissions in 2030 by pursuing a shared, electric, and connected mobility future.
 2. This reduction in energy demand would result saving of approximately \$60 billion in 2030 at present oil prices.
 3. Along with FAME-II, CII calls for boosting domestic manufacturing of vehicles, components and batteries needed to be boosted, along with skill development across the value chain, and strategic sourcing of key raw material.
 4. It will reduce India's import dependency for crude oil, from 84 % currently.
6. ▶ Delhi High Court released report about problem of increasing backlog and pendency of cases, Prompted by urgent need to ensure timely justice. HC started a Pilot Project titled "Zero Pendency Courts" in certain subordinate courts in Delhi. It aims to study flow of cases in absence of backlog.
7. ▶ General Conferences (May 1 - 10, 2019) -
 1. 14th edition of annual Sino-Indian border trade opened at Nathu La, the frontier post at Sino-Indian border in Sikkim.
 1. After a gap of 44 years, cross border trade was resumed on 6th, July 2006.
 2. Directorate of Indian Defence University (IDU) organized two day workshop on *Space Warfare and Technology* for officers from three Services in New Delhi.
 3. 16th Ministerial Meeting of Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) held in Doha (Qatar). V.K. Singh (Retd), Minister of State for External Affairs led Indian delegation. Theme of meeting was "Partners in Progress".
 4. Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman attended SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation) Defence Ministers' conclave in Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan).
 5. India and Australia's 11th Meeting of Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism at Canberra (Australia). Two nations agreed to deepen counter-terrorism co-operation through regular exchange of information and sharing of best practices.
8. ▶ Geological Survey of India (GSI) North Eastern Region installed two geological display boards at two important geological sites in Meghalaya, namely Mawmluh cave and Therriaghat, Sobhar in East Khasi Hill District. It will help in creating awareness among visiting tourists, students and general public.
 1. Mawmluh Cave were highlighted recently when high resolution stable isotopic studies of stalagmites from cave showed that there was a major climatic event about 4200 years ago. Stalagmite in Mawmluh cave has been tagged as Global Stratotype Section and Point (GSSP). It makes it first formally ratified marker of a geological time period in India.
 2. Therriaghat - It marks Cretaceous (K)-Palaeogene (Pg) mass extinction event. The Um-Sohryngkew (Wahrew) river section at Therriaghat is known for having most complete records of Cretaceous-Palaeogene (K-Pg) boundary transition in India.
9. ▶ Government and Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) signed MoU to bring best of technology to implement waste management by setting up a Centre of Excellence for Waste to Wealth Technologies. Waste to wealth mission project has been approved under Prime Minister's Science Technology and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC).
10. ▶ HRD Ministry's National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) signed MOU with Maharashtra state government's National Health Mission of Public Health Department. It aims to provide vocational programmes to health service providers of the providers of the National Health Mission (NHM) through NIOS.
11. ▶ IT Body NASSCOM partnered with GE Healthcare, to bring digital healthcare solutions to market. This will also help to flourish health-tech start-up ecosystem in country.
12. ▶ Indian Army found *mysterious footprints* measuring about 32×15 inches during its Mountaineering Expedition to Mt Makalu (8485m). The footprints are proposed to belong to *mythical beast Yeti* a mythical creature who is believed to exist in Himalayan areas of India, Nepal and Tibet. It has triggered debate on Yeti's existence.

13. ▶ India's Rare Life-Sized Stucco Sculpture has been recently unearthed in Telangana, from a Buddhist site at Phanigiri in Suryapet, as biggest stucco sculpture found in India till date. It is about 1.73 metres in height and 35 cm in width. It represents a Bodhisattva in Jataka Chakra. It was created nearly 1,700 years ago by craftsmen at Phanigiri at peak of Ikshvaku dynasty.
14. ▶ Israel honored 1971 war (Bangladesh's Liberation War) hero Jack Farj Rafael (JFR) Jacob with a plaque on Wall of Honour at the Ammunition Hill, Israel. He was one of most prominent members of India's relatively small Jewish community, who served as a Lieutenant General in Indian Army and as chief of staff of Eastern Command. He negotiated historic surrender of Pakistani troops in Dhaka after 1971 war.
15. ▶ Last captive white tiger named Bajirao died at Sanjay Gandhi National Park, in Borivali (Mumbai suburb). White tigers are a pigmentation variant of Bengal Tiger. Their white colour is due to lack of red or yellow pheomelanin pigment, and presence of unique recessive genes.
16. ▶ Mangaluru City Police launched an all-women police patrol unit 'Rani Abbakka Force', named after the 16th-century warrior of coastal Karnataka, Queen Abbakka of Ullal near Mangaluru.
17. ▶ Ministry of Home Affairs announced ending local adverse lists commonly known as 'Black Lists' of Indian-origin people.
 1. It is maintained by Indian missions abroad, containing list of Indian-origin people who have taken asylum abroad under plea of alleged persecution in India. Those who are in list are denied visa services by Indian missions and posts in respective country.
18. ▶ Purple frog (*Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis*) will be designated as Kerala's state amphibian. The odd-looking species is endemic to Western Ghats.
19. ▶ Researchers from Indigenous Biodiversity Foundation (IBF) sighted over 350 nests of endangered grizzled giant squirrel, a large tree squirrel at Pakkamalai Reserve Forests near Gingee in Eastern Ghats (TamilNadu). This endangered species is also categorised as near threatened by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List due to habitat loss and poaching.
20. ▶ Tractor-manufacturer Tractors and Farm Equipment (TAFE) signed MoU with Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) to aid conservation of resources. Under this, plan is to jointly conduct agricultural workshops by involving TAFE dealership network.
21. ▶ Tropical Cyclone Fani Hits Indian State of Odisha, with winds upto 250 KMPH.
 1. It was strongest tropical cyclone to strike Odisha since Phailin in 2013.
 2. Central Govt issued Funds Worth 1000 crores to Odisha. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has started helpline number 1938 for Cyclone Fani.
 3. The cyclone carried lesser than expected impact to West Bengal, as it turned to Neighbouring nation Bangladesh.
22. ▶ Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu released postage stamp to commemorate 750th birth anniversary of Noted Philosopher Sri Vedanta Desikan. He is one of most prominent preceptors in 'Sri Vaishnava' tradition post Ramanuja period.
23. ▶ e-Governance Services India Limited (Under Ministry of Electronics & IT) partnered with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)Kanpur to upscale 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan', a programme of HRD (Human Resource Development) Ministry.
24. ▶ 'Gujarat Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2019' came into force from May 1, 2019. It allows shops and commercial establishments to now remain open always (24X7).
 1. It replaces 'Gujarat Shops and Establishments Act of 1948' which prohibited shops and other businesses from remaining open between 12 am to 6 am.

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Persons

1. ▶ An 18-year old girl from Nepal, Bandana has set a Guinness World Records on 'Longest Dancing Marathon by an Individual'. She danced exclusively to Nepalese music continuously for 126 hours, breaking Old Record set by India's Kalamandalam Hemlatha, who danced continuously for 123 hours and 15 minutes in 2011.
2. ▶ Obituaries (May 2019) -
 1. Master Hirannaiah - Noted Veteran Kannada cinema, theatre actor.
 2. B Subhashan - Former Madras and Kerala High Court Chief Justice.
 3. Maramraju Satyanarayana Rao - Noted writer and academician from Telangana.
 4. Seymour Nurse - Noted West Indian batsman, from Barbados.
 5. Eranholi Moosa - Noted Folk singer From Kerala.
 6. Derek Sippy - Former Indian Billiards player.

7. NR Madhava Menon - Noted pioneer of Indian legal education. He is considered as 'Father of Modern Legal Education'.
 8. Kirpal Singh - First chronicler of Partition. He started building an archive in 1954.
 9. Baidyanath Mishra - Noted economist.
 10. Mrinal Mukherjee - Noted Bengali film and TV actor.
 11. Thopil Mohammed Meeran - Noted Sahitya Akademi awardee Tamil writer. He won Sahitya Akademi Award in 1997, for his novel Saaivu Naarkkaali (The Reclining Chair).
 12. YC Deveshwar - Padma Bhushan awardee and ITC's Non-Executive Chairman.
 13. Nebburu Narayana Hegde - Noted Yakshagana 'bhagawatha' (singer).
 14. Hiralal Yadav - Padma Shri awardee Bhojpuri folk singer.
 15. Bob Hawke - former Prime Minister of Australia.
 16. MB Balakrishnan - Indian Swimmer. He was South Asian Games Gold medalist in 50m backstroke.
3. ▶ Persons Resigned / Retired (May 2019) -
1. B.V.P. Rao resigned as Archery Association of India (AAI) President.
 2. Bhushan Patil resigned as President at Paytm.
 3. Noted Spanish Footballer Player Xavi Hernandez retired from professional football.
 4. Yaya Toure (Ivory Coast) retired from Professional football.
4. ▶ Supreme Court dismissed complaint of sexual harassment against Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi, based on a panel's report, which was created recently under S A Bobde.
5. ▶ Wikileaks co-founder Julian Assange has been sentenced to 50 weeks in a British prison for breaching his bail by entering the Ecuadorian embassy in London.
1. Julian Assange is an Australian national who found whistle blower site Wikileaks. He spent about seven years holed up in Ecuadoran Embassy and was found guilty of breaching UK's Bail Act.

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Science

1. ▶ A team of herpetologists from Pune-based Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (specialized in study of reptiles and amphibians) discovered a new species of reddish-brown pit viper from Arunachal Pradesh, with scientific Name *Trimeresurus arunachalensis*. It makes Arunachal Pradesh only Indian state to have a pit viper named after it.
 1. Viper discovered is never described before therefore this single known specimen of this species makes it currently rarest pit viper in world. Its a species of reddish-brown pit viper, a venomous snake. It has a unique heat-sensing system.
 2. India is now home to fifth brown pit viper. Other four brown pit vipers are Hump-Nosed, Horseshoe, Malabar, and Himalayan.
2. ▶ An asteroid named 99942 APOPHIS is on course to pass close to Earth on April 13, 2029. This massive asteroid (340 m wide) will be visible to the naked eyes when it passes close to Earth. It will cruise by Earth in 2029, about 31,000 km above surface.
3. ▶ Arizona State University Researchers Including Indian-origin cosmochemist Maitrayee Bose found water in asteroid Itokawa, in samples collected by Japanese space probe Hayabusa. Itokawa is a peanut-shaped S-type asteroid about 1,800 feet long and 700 to 1,000 feet wide. It circles Sun every 18 months at an average distance of 1.3 times Earth-Sun distance.
4. ▶ ISRO will launch India's second lunar mission Chandrayaan-2 in July 2019, which will touch down near Moon's south pole on 6th September 2019.
 1. It would be launched using GSLV MK-III Rocket from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
 2. It has three modules (a detachable self-contained unit of a spacecraft) namely namely Orbiter, Lander named Vikram and Rover named Pragyan.
 3. Orbiter and Lander will be put together inside GSLV MK-III a three stage launch vehicle equipped to lift heaviest satellites into orbit. The Rover is enclosed inside Lander. Once spacecraft is launched into earth bound orbit, integrated module will reach Moon orbit using Orbiter propulsion module. Then, Vikram Lander would separate from Orbiter and will make soft landing close to lunar South Pole.
 4. Chandrayan-2 would land on southern pole of the moon, which is still unexplored by any of the countries.
 5. Chandrayan-1 (launched Oct 2008) only orbited the moon, while Chandryaan 2 will attempt a soft landing close to lunar south pole.
5. ▶ NASA's first mission to demonstrate a planetary defence technique, Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART), will get one opportunity to hit small moonlet in binary asteroid system Didymos, in 2022.

1. Asteroid, called Didymoon or Didymos B, is a moon asteroid around 150 meters tall orbiting a larger body Didymos A, the most accessible asteroid of its size from the Earth.
2. DART is a planned space probe that will demonstrate the kinetic effects of crashing an impact spacecraft into an asteroid moon for planetary defence purposes. The mission is intended to test whether a spacecraft impact could successfully deflect an asteroid on a collision course with Earth.
6. ▶ Researchers at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) Mumbai found new function for stress buster Serotonin (5-hydroxytryptamine), stating that it may help treat neurological diseases. So far, Serotonin's newly identified function was only studied in mice and rats. If found to be true in humans, it may have important medical implications.
7. ▶ Scientists from Stanford University demonstrated for first time the possibility of producing a measurable amount of electricity in an infrared photodiode from coldness of universe. Infrared semiconductor uses temperature difference between Space and Earth to produce electricity. New device generated about 64 nanowatts per square meter.
8. ▶ USA Space Exploration firm SpaceX launched a Dragon cargo capsule, targeted to reach International Space Station. Cargo Dragon spacecraft was carrying 2,500 kilograms (5,500 pounds) of supplies for the astronauts on the ISS as part of the CRS-17 mission.

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Sports

1. ▶ 36th Feliks Stamm International Boxing Tournament 2019 (Warsaw, Poland) -
 1. India won a total 6 medals which includes 2 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze medal. Indian Medalists -

| 1. | S.No. | Weight Category | Name | Medal |
|----|-------|----------------------|----------------------|--------|
| | 1. | Fly (52-kg) | Gaurav Solanki | Gold |
| | 2. | Light (60-kg) | Manish Kaushik | Gold |
| | 3. | Bantam (56-kg) | Mohammed Hussamuddin | Silver |
| | 4. | Light Welter (64-kg) | Ankit Khatana | Bronze |
| | 5. | Welter (69-kg) | Mandeep Jangra | Bronze |
| | 6. | Heavy (91-kg) | Sanjeet | Bronze |

2. ▶ Indian Squash Players Saurav Ghosal and Joshna Chinappa won individual titles (Male and Female Respectively) in Asian Squash Championships in Kualalampur, Malaysia. Joshna Chinappa defeated Annie Au of Hong Kong and Saurav Ghosal defeated Leo Au Chun Ming of Hong Kong.
3. ▶ Misc. Sports Events (May 19) -
 1. Jaipur will host 8th Asian Youth Women Handball Championships in August 2019.
 2. India's Apurvi Chandela became world number 1 in women's 10m air rifle event, as per latest rankings by International Shooting Sport Federation.
 3. Hockey India nominated Indian goalkeeper PR Sreejesh for Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award and Chinglensana Singh Kangujam, Akashdeep Singh and Deepika for Arjuna Award. Also, National Shooting Federation recommended Heena Sidhu and Ankur Mittal for Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award.
 4. Indian Wrestler Bajrang Punia (Current World number one in 65 kg Category) won gold medal in 2019 Ali Aliyev Wrestling Tournament in Kaspiisk (Russia), after defeating Viktor Rassadin.
 5. West Indies' players John Campbell and Shai Hope created record for Highest Opening Wicket Partnership by making first-ever 350 plus run stand (365 Runs), against Ireland.
 6. FIFA introduced 2 new award categories - Women's goalkeeper of year and women's team of the year, to promote women's football.
 7. US President Donald Trump awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom, country's highest civilian honour to Noted US golfer Tiger Woods.
 8. Retirement Bound Jamaican Cricketer Chris Gayle has been named Vice-Captain of West Indies Cricket Team for ICC World Cup 2019, to be hosted by England and Wales.
 9. Indian Dairy Brand Amul announced to sponsor Afghanistan team in upcoming Cricket World Cup 2019 in England and Wales.
 10. India's Esha Singh and Akull Kumar won silver medal in International Shooting Competition of Hannover (Germany).
 11. Inaugural edition of world's first exclusive women's cricket magazine named as 'Criczone' released in India. Its a one stop solution for providing updates from world of women's cricket.

12. Golfer Mukesh Kumar won TATA Steel PGTI Players Championship in Panchkula (Haryana).
13. 17th edition of India's prestigious international motorsport event, Desert Storm Rally 2019 held in Rajasthan.
14. Team from the Georgia Institute of Technology, including an Indian American student Shiv Chopra, won "Hearthstone Collegiate Championship," part of first-ever ESPN Collegiate Esports Championship.
15. Japan's Yosuke Asaji won Asia-Pacific Diamond Cup 2019 at the Sobu Country Club. India's Rahil Gangjee finished tied 39th while Viraj Madappa ended tied 53rd.
16. Pakistan Female Cricketer Sana Mir became most successful women's ODI spinner in Female Cricket history, after she took 147 wickets.
17. International Army Scout Masters Competition as a part of International Army Games will be organised under aegis of Konark Corps at Jaisalmer (Rajasthan) in August 2019. It will witness participation of Mechanised Infantry Scout Teams of 8 countries including Russia.
18. Asian Football Confederation (AFC) announced that for first time, an all-female referee team will take charge of a Men's Continental Club Cup clash (Cambodia vs Myanmar). Female referees are Japanese, namely Naomi Teshirogi, Makoto Bozano and Yoshimi Yamashita.
19. For first time in ICC Cricket world cup history, each participating team at upcoming ICC World Cup 2019 will have a dedicated anti-corruption officer attached with it, aimed at delivering a corruption-free tournament.
 1. Also, Former Indian cricketers Sourav Ganguly and Sanjay Manjrekar along with Harsha Bhogle inducted into ICC commentary panel from India for World Cup 2019.
20. China will host Asian Cup Football tournament in 2023, after South Korea withdrew its bid to host the games.
21. Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) tied up with IT Firm HCL, to improve Squash Sport in India.
22. Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) appointed India's Wasim Jaffer as batting coach for game development of its high performance academy in Dhaka. Jaffer has exceptional stats in Domestic Cricket.

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