

Weekly Current G.K.

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FEBRUARY 2020

4th week

IMPORTANT DAYS

- ✚ February 2 - World Wetlands Day
- ✚ February 20 - World Day of Social Justice
- ✚ February 21 - International Mother Language Day
- ✚ February 23 - World Peace and Understanding Day
- ✚ February 24 - Central Excise Day

NATIONAL EVENTS

- **Indian Railways launched its First “Restaurant on Wheels” at Asansol Station, West Bengal:** On February 26, 2020 Indian railways launched its First “Restaurant on Wheels” at Asansol Station (division of Eastern railway), West Bengal, for railway passengers and citizens of the city. **Shri Babul Supriyo**, Minister of State for Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoSEFCC) inaugurated the 1st “Restaurant on Wheels” at Asansol station.
- **Bengaluru recorded 2019’s highest number of digital transactions while MH topped among states: Report by Worldline India**
In accordance with the report by online payment processor Worldline India titled “**Worldline India Digital Payments 2019**”, Bengaluru (Karnataka) accounted for the highest number of digital transactions in India in 2019, followed by **Chennai** (Tamil Nadu), **Mumbai** and **Pune** in Maharashtra.
- **Among states**, Maharashtra (MH) has topped with the highest number of digital transactions.
- The most preferred mode of payment was **United Payments Interface (UPI)**. It was followed by debit cards, immediate payment service (IMPS), and credit cards, in terms of volume share of digital transactions. UPI is also the fastest

payment mode to hit 1 billion monthly transactions

- **India to host 1st Artificial intelligence summit: RAISE 2020- ‘Responsible AI for Social Empowerment 2020’ in New Delhi**

On 26 February 2020, The Government of India announced India’s 1st Artificial intelligence summit, **RAISE 2020- ‘Responsible Artificial intelligence (AI) for Social Empowerment’**, a ‘First-of-its kind’ summit organized by the Government of India in partnership with Industry & Academia & Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to be held between April 11 & 12, 2020 in New Delhi. The government launched **AI-Startup Challenge** & the event website. Prime Minister Narendra Modi to inaugurate the summit.

RAISE 2020 & its Aim

The summit is a drive to India’s vision & roadmap for social empowerment, inclusion & transformation through AI. The event will start with Startup Challenge-Pitchfest followed. The aim is to bring people together to exchange ideas on how to use AI for, social empowerment, inclusion & transformation in important sectors such as Healthcare, Agriculture, Education and Smart Mobility among other sectors.

- **International Conference on Standardisation of Diagnosis and Terminologies in Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha Systems of Medicine (ICoSDiTAUS-2020) held in New Delhi**

The two day **International Conference on Standardisation of Diagnosis and Terminologies in Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha Systems of Medicine- ICoSDiTAUS-2020** was held in New Delhi on February 25-26, 2020. This is the biggest ever international conference on standardisation of Diagnosis and

Terminologies of Traditional Medicine. It was organized by Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) in association with World Health Organisation (WHO) at the Ministerial level. The objective of this conference was to underline the power of Traditional Medicine (TM) systems and their significance in addressing the public health challenges of the 21st century.

- **India 5th most polluted country with Ghaziabad as the most polluted city, globally: IQAir AirVisual Report**

In accordance with the “2019 World Air Quality Report-Region & City PM2.5 Ranking” compiled by IQAir AirVisual, India ranked 5th as the most polluted country in the world and topped in an annual list of cities with the worst air quality in the world. The report has been prepared by monitoring the real time data to tackle the urgent issue of air pollution.

- **Bangladesh** emerged as the most polluted country for PM2.5 exposure. It is followed by **Pakistan, Mongolia, Afghanistan,** and **India** at 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th place respectively.

- **Mumbai airport gets world’s largest ‘Export Cold Zone’ to Store Agro, Pharma Products**

On February 22, 2020, **Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL)**, a joint venture (JV) of the GVK led consortium and Airports Authority of India (AAI), has unveiled the world’s largest airport-based temperature-controlled facility, the ‘**Export Cold Zone**’ for processing and storage of agro and pharma products, for which **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport** will be the largest export gateway.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- **Saudi Arabia, 1st Arab Nation that hosts G20 finance ministers and central bank governors meeting 2020 from Feb 22-23**

The G20 Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors Meeting was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on 22-23 February

2020 on the theme “**Realizing Opportunities of the 21st Century for All**”. The meet was chaired by the Saudi Arabia’s finance minister Mohammed al-Jadaan and central bank governor Ahmed al-Kholifey.

Key Points:

- The objective of the meet was to enhance economic growth through financial mechanisms and to discuss the risks from the coronavirus epidemic.
- It should be noted that Saudi Arabia is the first Arab nation to hold the G20 presidency and will hold the fifteenth meeting of Group of Twenty (G20) i.e. **G20 Leaders Summit 2020** from 21-22 November 2020, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

PERSONS IN NEWS

- **Ajay Tyagi Chairman of SEBI gets 6 month extension**

Chairman of Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) **Ajay Tyagi** gets a **6 month** extension from the government, whose tenure of 3 years (from 2017) to end on February 29, 2020. He is an Indian Administrative Officer (IAS) of the Himachal Pradesh Cadre.

- **Michael Miebach named as Mastercard’s new President & CEO, Ajay Banga moves to Executive Chairman**

On February 25, 2020, Mastercard named **Michael Miebach** as its new President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He will replace **Ajaypal Singh Banga**, who assumes charge as Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors.

OBITUARY

- **Former Tamil Nadu Minister K P P Samy passed away at 57**

On February 27, 2020, Former Tamil Nadu Fisheries Minister and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam’s (DMK) present Thiruvottiyur (state assembly constituency) Member of Legislative assembly (MLA) **Mr. K P P Samy**, passed away at age of 57 in

Chennai, Tamil Nadu, due to Kidney related illness.

• **Former Karnataka Minister C Chennigappa passed away at 76**

On February 22, 2020 Former Karnataka Minister and Janata Dal (Secular) leader **C Chennigappa** passed away at the age of 70, in Bengaluru, Karnataka. He hailed from Byranayakanahalli, Nelamangala taluk, Karnataka.

• **Former Indian Footballer Ashok Chatterjee passed away at 78**

On February 22, 2020, The former Indian Footballer **Ashok Chatterjee** who was a part of India's bronze-medal winning teams in the Merdeka Cup in 1965 and 1966, passed away at the age of 78 in Kolkata due to age related issues.

PLACES IN NEWS

• **Madhya Pradesh becomes the 1st state to launch unified vehicle registration card & 2nd to launch unified driving license**

On February 25, 2020 Madhya Pradesh(MP) Government launched a **unified vehicle registration card** becoming the 1st state to introduce & 2nd state to launch the **unified driving license** after Uttar Pradesh. The objective of the card is to provide unified smart cards for driving license & vehicle registration with QR code. Chief Minister (CM) Kamal Nath gave away the unified cards, which include registration card & driving license to 6 persons. MP is the first state to issue both smart cards together.

Key Points:

- i. In 2019, March the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways(MORTH) issued certain guidelines to bring uniformity in driving license & vehicle registration cards across the country. The cards now issued are in compliance with those guidelines

Features of the cards:

- The cards will possess complete information on both sides of the cards unlike the previous ones.
- They will carry unique numbers recognized across the country.

- Each card will have a QR code that helps to verify authenticity of the data printed on the cards.

- Numerous information including the name, address, blood group, DOB, Photograph of the holder, issuing authority, validity & other details will be stored in a chip.

- The unified driving license card states about the ability of the driver to drive in hilly & dangerous areas & emergency contact number.

• **Himachal Pradesh: 1st State to achieve 100% LPG coverage**

On February 24, 2020 **Himachal Pradesh** became the **1st** state in the country to have 100% LPG (Liquified Petroleum Gas) coverage due to the implementation of PMUY (Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana) scheme.

Key Points:

- i. Following the implementation of the PMUY scheme, the state government launched '**Himachal Grihini Suvidha Yojana**' in May 2018 to cover the scheme to remaining households.
- ii. Under the scheme except families having a pensioner, income taxpayer or any member employed with the government, board, corporation etc, all households of the state without an LPG connection were eligible.

AWARDS

• **Forest Man of India & environmentalist Padma Shri Jadav Payeng honoured with 6th Swami Vivekananda Karmayogi Award 2020**

On February 29, 2020 Forest Man of India & environmentalist **Padma Shri Jadav 'Molai' Payeng** is honoured with the 6th annual **Swami Vivekananda Karmayogi award 2020** for his consistent efforts in creating a man made forest through afforestation. The award comprises of a trophy, a recitation & a reward of Rs 1 Lakh . He is also a forest worker from the missing tribe from Jorhat, Assam.

• **Susan Daniel won Sahitya Akademi's Translation Prize 2019 for translating Kannada novel 'Kusumabale' to English**

On February 26, 2020 **Sahitya Akademi's Translation Prize for 2019** for English has been awarded to **Susan Daniel for her novel titled "Kusumabale"**, which was translated from the Kannada novel "Kusumabale" written by Devanur Mahadeva.

Key Points:

- i. Chandrashekar Kambar, President of Sahitya Akademi, announced a total of 23 awards in various Indian languages.
 - ii. The award carries a cash prize of Rs 50,000 and a copper plaque.
 - iii. **About the novel:** Kusumbale was published in 1988, is a classic novel in Kannada Literature, written in a language typically spoken in Chamarajnar district in Southern Karnataka, it combines prose, poetry, mythology of Dalit life.
- **Hrithik Roshan awarded as the Best Actor in Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival 2020**

On February 20, 2020 The **Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2020** was held in Mumbai, Maharashtra. **Hrithik Roshan** bagged the Best Actor award for film "Super 30".

Key Points:

- i. Divyanka Tripathi was honoured as the Best Actress for television.
 - ii. Actor Ravi Dubey served as the host & many celebrities attended the event from the film and television industry.
 - iii. Stars including Hrithik Roshan, Malaika Arora, Divya Tripathi, Rashami Desai and Dia Mirza attended the event.
- **Mangalore's Adline Castelino won LIVA Miss Diva Universe 2020 title**
- On February 23, 2020 **Adline Castelino** from Mangalore, Karnataka has won **LIVA Miss Diva Universe 2020** title and was crowned by Vartika Singh, the winner of previous edition, at an event held in YRF (Yash Raj Films) Studios, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

SPORTS

- **Russian tennis star and 5 time Grand Slam winner Maria Sharapova gets retired**

On February 26, 2020 **Russian tennis star and 5 time Grand Slam winner Maria Yuryevna Sharapova**, 32 years old, announced her retirement. She became the **World No.1 in 2005** and as a Grand Slam winner with 2 titles in French Open (2012, 2014), a Australian Open(2008), a US [United States] Open (2006) and Wimbledon Open (2004).

Key Points:

- i. **About Maria Sharapova:** She was born on April 19, 1987 at Nyagan, Russia and settled in Florida, US. She was one of the world's most recognisable and the highest-paid sportswomen.
- **Shri Kiren Rijiju inaugurated 1st Khelo India Winter Games in Leh, Ladakh**
- On February 25, 2020 **Shri Kiren Rijiju**, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, inaugurated the **first ever Khelo India Winter Games (KIWG)** in the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh at Leh, Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir (J&K).

Key Points:

- i. The event is organized to promote winter sports in India and to popularise these games among the youth of the country,
 - ii. Three winter sporting games are being held in Ladakh of Khelo India Winter games- Open Ice Hockey Championship, Figure Skating and Speed Skating.
 - iii. About 1,700 athletes of different ages, from Leh and Kargil districts of Ladakh, will compete in the Khelo India Ladakh Winter Games at 10 blocks, district and then at UT (Union Territory) level.
 - iv. The second level of the Khelo India winter games will be held at Kongdari, Gulmarg, J&K from 7 to 11 March, 2020 & will have participants competing in Alpine Skiing, Cross Country Skiing, snowboarding and snow shoeing events.
- **Young Indian Grand Master D.Gukesh wins title at 34th Cannes open 2020 chess**
- On February 22, 2020, The 13-year old Young Indian Grandmaster (Youngest GM of India) **Dommaraju Gukesh** emerged as champion in the **34th Cannes Open 2020 chess** tournament held at Cannes, France by beating Harutyun Bargsheyan from

France in the Final round and secured a total of 7.5 points.

Key points:

- i. Tamil Nadu based Gukesh became the world's second youngest Grandmaster in 2019 and he beat Bargesyan in 50 moves.
- ii. Chongsheng Zeng from china took 2nd place, after Gukesh other Indian players Siva Mahadevan and G B Harshavardhan holds 10th place and 18th place respectively in the cannes open.
- iii. Gukesh also won the title in the Hillerod 110th Anniversary Open event 2020 in Denmark and it was his 1st Open Tournament title.

PM Modi inaugurated first-ever Khelo India University Games at Cuttack, Odisha

On February 22, 2020 Prime Minister (PM) Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the first-ever Khelo India University Games at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Cuttack, Odisha through video conferencing. Nearly 3,400 athletes from 159 universities across the country will participate in 17 disciplines including rugby which is among the 6 team events.

Key Points:

- i. Khelo India was started in 2018 in order to attract youth towards sports & recognising young talents in every part of the country.
- ii. The games will be staged across 10 venues in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack from february 21, 2020 to March 1, 2020. The Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) will be the main center for sporting extravaganza.
- iii. Ace sprinter Dutee Chand, national record-holder in 100m & student of KIIT, will also be part of the University games.
- iv. Odisha Chief Minister (CM) Naveen Patnaik, Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju and Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Petroleum & Natural gas (MoP&NG) participated in the occasion.

Astronomers discovered a mini-moon or planet's 2nd moon, "Dubbed 2020 CD3"

On February 15, 2020 mini- moon or planet's 2nd moon "Dubbed 2020

CD3" was discovered by Kacper Wierzos and Teddy Pruyne of the NASA-funded Catalina Sky Survey (CSS) in Arizona, US. It is an **asteroid** about the size of the car & its diameter is about 1.9-3.5 metre.

Key Points:

- The mini moon is a temporary moon, dissimilar to our permanent moon which will break free of Earth's orbit & go off on its own way.
- The Dubbed 2020 CD3 asteroid crosses the Earth's orbit & when contend with the gravitational influence of our permanent moon & sun, it will be caught in Earth's orbit for a few years & will break free & go into independent orbit around the sun. This type of asteroid is termed as Temporarily Captured Object (TCO).
- According to the researchers Dubbed 2020 CD3 is captured into earth's orbit over **3 years**.
- Previously In 2006, **RH120** was discovered on 14 September 2006 with 27 inch (690mm)
- **6th offshore patrol vessel "Yard 45006 VAJRA" launched in Chennai**

On February 27, 2020 6th offshore patrol vessel(OPV) "Yard 45006 VAJRA" was launched to enhance coastal security. Shri Mansukh Laxmanbhai Mandaviya, Minister of State for Shipping(I/C) and Chemicals & Fertilizers is the Chief Guest of the launching ceremony. The 6th vessel in the series of 7 OPV is designed & developed by **Larsen & Toubro** under the Central government's initiative 'Make in India'.

Objective of 6th OPV

To strengthen the efforts of Indian Coast Guard to secure over 7500 km vast coastline, over 20 Lakh sq Kms of Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) & to safeguard more than 1 lakh merchant ships transiting per year through Indian waters for global trade.

- **L&T-built 5th offshore patrol vessel called 'ICGS Varad' commissioned in Chennai, Tamil Nadu for Indian Coast Guard**

On February 28, 2020, The Indian Coast

Guard's (ICG) 98 meter long 5th Offshore Patrol Vessel called "ICGS Varad" was inducted into service by Shri. Mansukh Mandaviya, the Union Minister of State for Shipping (Independent Charge) and Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertiliser at LOT Kattupalli shipyard, near Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The vessel has been designed and built by the L&T (Larsen & Toubro Limited).

- i. With the ICGS Varad's induction, the ICG will now have 147 ships and boats and 62 aircraft. The vessel is equipped with 30 mm and 12.7 mm guns & has special onboard features like the Integrated Bridge System, Platform Management System, Automated Power Management System and High Power External Fire-Fighting system.
- ii. The vessel has the capability to carry four high-speed boats and a twin-engine helicopter for search and rescue operations and law enforcement and maritime patrol. It can also took up pollution response equipment in case of an oil spill at the sea

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- **Manmohan singh released "Yaaru Bharat Maate", the Kanada version of the book "who is bharat mata " translated by K E Radhakrishna**

On February 23, 2020, The Former Prime Minister of India Mr. Manmohan Singh has released the Kannada version of the book "who is bharat mata" translated by **Professor K E Radhakrishna** and titled as "**Yaaru Bharat Maate**" and the English version of the book is penned by professor Purushottam Agarwal, and the book was Published by the Swapna Book House, Bengaluru in association with Delhi Karnataka Sangha.

- **Vice President Venkaiah naidu released Sadhguru's book 'Death-An Inside Story'**

On February 21 ,2020, Vice-President President **Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu**, who was the chief guest at the 26th Maha Sivaratri celebrations at Isha Yoga Centre in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu (TN), has launched a book titled "**Death;**

An Inside Story: A book for all those who shall die" penned by Jaggi Vasudev, (generally referred to as Sadhguru),an Indian yogi ,author & founder of Isha Foundation.

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

1. **Name the Indian Ministry, which is going to organize the 1st Artificial intelligence summit, RAISE 2020- 'Responsible Artificial intelligence (AI) for Social Empowerment' between 12-14 February in New Delhi.**

- 1) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- 2) Ministry of Science and Technology
- 3) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- 4) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- 5) Ministry of Earth Sciences

2. **The Union Cabinet has approved the bill to give Institute of National Importance (INI) status to which of the following institutions?**

- 1) National Institutes of Food Technology at Kundli, Haryana
- 2) National Institutes of Food Technology at Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu
- 3) National Institutes of Food Technology at Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- 4) Both 1) and 2)
- 5) Both 2) and 3)

3. **The Union Cabinet has approved the National Technical Textiles Mission at the cost of Rs. _____ to lead India in the manufacture of technical fabrics used in specific fields like medical, military.**

- 1) 750 Crore
- 2) 890 Crore
- 3) 1,160 Crore
- 4) 1,480 Crore
- 5) 2,140 Crore

4. **The Union Cabinet gave approval for the exemption of India Ports Global Ltd (IPGL) from the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) guidelines for the smooth execution of Chabahar project. The Chabahar is a port in which of the following country?**

- 1) Iraq
- 2) Iran
- 3) Afghanistan
- 4) UAE
- 5) Uzbekistan

5. Which is the 1st Government entity to adopt centralised invoicing platform, TreDS to help smaller MSME vendors to access working capital easily?
- 1) Ordnance Factory Board
 - 2) Prasar Bharti
 - 3) National Housing Bank
 - 4) Integral Coach Factory
 - 5) All India Radio
6. Find the Indian state, which tops the list of number of outgoing patients for treatment under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) based on the analysis of National Health Authority (NHA).
- 1) Gujarat
 - 2) Madhya Pradesh
 - 3) Telangana
 - 4) West Bengal
 - 5) Uttar Pradesh
7. During the 43rd session of United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) Sri Lankan Government withdraws from UNHRC's resolution on war crimes. The Headquarters of UNHRC located at which of the following Country?
- 1) Vienna, Austria
 - 2) Shanghai, China
 - 3) Brussels, Belgium
 - 4) Paris, France
 - 5) Geneva, Switzerland
8. Name the company, which is the 1st non-life insurance company in India to use WhatsApp Chabot for services like delivery policy & renewal documents?
- 1) Apollo Munich Health Insurance
 - 2) Bharti AXA General Insurance
 - 3) Edelweiss General Insurance
 - 4) DHFL General Insurance
 - 5) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
9. The Finance Secretary Rajiv Kumar has launched 'Baroda Startup Banking' service to make Bank of Baroda (BoB) preferred partner for Start-up companies. Who is the present Chairman of BoB?
- 1) Hasmukh Adhia
 - 2) T. N. Manoharan
 - 3) Rajnish Kumar
 - 4) S. Muhnot
 - 5) Pratap Sharma
10. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has ordered to link all their new floating rate loans to medium enterprises with an external benchmark effective from _____.
- 1) March 31, 2020
 - 2) January 1, 2021
 - 3) July 1, 2020
 - 4) April 1, 2020
 - 5) June 30, 2020
11. The RBI has released a working paper titled "Nowcasting Indian GDP growth using a Dynamic Factor Model" which derived a new method to calculate India's growth (GDP) using ____ indicators.
- 1) 10
 - 2) 15
 - 3) 12
 - 4) 7
 - 5) 18
12. The Government of India (GoI) decided to include non-scheduled urban & District cooperative banks under which scheme to make easy access to finance for MSME sector.
- 1) Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro & Small Enterprises (CGTMSE)
 - 2) Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS)
 - 3) Interest subvention scheme
 - 4) only 1) and 2)
 - 5) All the 1), 2) and 3)
13. Name the Public Sector Bank which displayed Shishu e-Mudra app (providing instant sanction of working capital up to Rs. 50,000 to existing small business customers) at an event in New Delhi.
- 1) State Bank of India
 - 2) Bank of Baroda
 - 3) Bank of Maharashtra
 - 4) Canara Bank
 - 5) Indian Bank
14. As per PSB Ease reform report Annual Report 2019-20 the Gross Non-Performing Assets (G-NPA) reduced from Rs. 8.96 lakh crore in March 2018 to Rs. _____ lakh crore in December 2019.
- 1) 6.25
 - 2) 9.98
 - 3) 4.65
 - 4) 7.17
 - 5) 7.87
15. Name the Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC), which launched an

SME (Small and medium-sized enterprises) lending product “UDAAN” for women entrepreneurs to provide secured loans upto Rs.40 lakhs.

- 1) Muthoot Finance Limited
- 2) Edelweiss Finance & Investments Limited
- 3) Capri Global Capital Limited
- 4) Religare Finvest Limited
- 5) Capital First Limited

PANACEA