

One Liner Current Affairs February 2019

Financial One Liner Current Affairs

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- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in February, 2019 removed three public sector banks from the prompt corrective action (PCA) framework, allowing them to carry on normal business, especially lending. The three banks are Bank of India (BoI), Bank of Maharashtra (Mahabank), and Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC).
- The government in February, 2019 revised the economic growth rate upwards to 7.2 per cent for 2017-18 from the 6.7 per cent estimated earlier.
- The HDFC Bank in February, 2019 joined hands with the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A) to launch its first regional DIS Summit, a platform for start-ups to showcase their innovations to power the bank's growth.
- The Defence Acquisitions Council, DAC chaired by Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman approved indigenous construction of six submarines worth 40 thousand crore rupees.
- The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs approved the construction of another 4,78,670 more affordable houses for the benefit of urban poor under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).
- IT major Mphasis in February, 2019 in February, 2019 partnered with NASSCOM to felicitate best in class AI start-ups at the upcoming NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum 2019.
- Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal presented an Interim Budget for 2019 in Parliament in February, 2019.
- The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank Group have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for climate change and conservation of the environment. The Rs 7000 crore MOU was signed in February, 2019.
- Yes Bank senior group president and head - retail and business banking Pralay Mondal has tendered his resignation.
- Three Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) sponsored by the public sector Indian Bank were amalgamated and renamed as 'Tamil Nadu Grama Bank', with its Head Office in Salem.
- On the 4th day of MSME International Trade Fair-2019, the session on "Promoting Women Entrepreneurship" received an overwhelming participation from more than 300 women entrepreneurs, exporters and startups.
- To ensure due compliance of the FDI policy on e-Commerce, Press Note 2 (2018) was issued.
- After receiving overwhelming response to its YONO (You Only Need One) app, the country's largest lender, State Bank of India, now plans to launch YONO Krishi and YONO Global apps in April, according to its chairman Rajnish Kumar.
- Government in February, 2019 decided to launch a campaign to saturate farmers for financial inclusion under Kisan Credit Cards (KCC).
- Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is empowering women entrepreneurs through its different schemes.
- MG Motor India has signed a MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the country's largest public sector lender State Bank of India, for the latter's Electronic Dealer Finance Scheme (e-DFS).
- Yes Bank, India's fourth largest private sector Bank, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MG Motor India, a British automotive company headquartered in Birmingham, United Kingdom, to enter into a strategic financing partnership.
- ICICI Bank announced in February, 2019 that it has launched a range of fixed deposits (FDs) and recurring deposits (RDs) called FD Xtra.
- India, eyeing a bigger role in Eurasia and Afghanistan amid prevailing geopolitics, has signed a memorandum of understanding with Russia for fast-tracking International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC) that will enable a smoother connectivity to the region via Iran.
- Chinese smartphone player Oppo in February, 2019 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Telangana government to support and develop the startup ecosystem in the state.
- In a major policy shift, the six-member monetary policy committee (MPC) headed by Governor Shaktikanta Das in February, 2019 lower the repo rate by 25 basis points to 6.25 per cent in 4-2 vote. RBI has thus cut rate for the first time in 17 months. The last rate cut happened in August, 2017.

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- Kerala became the first State to set up a Price Monitoring and Research Unit (PMRU) to track violation of prices of essential drugs and medical devices under the Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO).
- The Cabinet has approved a proposal for Official Amendments to Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2018.
- The government allowed export of bio-fuels from Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and export-oriented units (EoUs) with certain conditions.
- Union Minister of Textiles Smriti Irani launched the India Size project in Mumbai in February, 2019.
- The Union Cabinet approved the introduction of National Institutes of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management Bill, 2019 in the Parliament.
- The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs approved the proposal for continuation of the Scheme of "Exploration of Coal and Lignite" with an expected expenditure of Rs.1875 Crore.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the proposal of Ministry of New & Renewable Energy for implementation of the Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) Scheme Phase-II for setting up 12,000 MW grid-connected Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power Projects.
- The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs approved creation of a corpus of Rs. 2000 crore for Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund (AMIF) to be created with NABARD for development and up-gradation of agricultural marketing infrastructure in Gramin Agricultural Markets and Regulated Wholesale Markets.
- State Bank of India on Thursday said that the Reserve Bank of India has slapped Rs 1 crore penalty on the country's largest lender for violating norms.
- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority has imposed a fine of Rs nine lakh on state-owned United India Insurance Co Ltd for violating certain procedures.
- The Avendus India ESG Fund made its maiden investment on February 1, marking the first time a fund of this kind has been launched in India. ESG stands for environment, social and governance.
- The Union Cabinet on February 6, 2019 approved establishment of a unified authority for regulating all financial services in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) in India through the International Financial Services Centres Authority Bill, 2019.
- Centre has sanctioned 173 crore rupees for 58 national highway projects in Himachal Pradesh.
- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das today announced that the limit of collateral free agricultural loans has been increased from one lakh to 1.6 lakh. Addressing the post monetary policy announcement in Mumbai today, Mr. Das said the decision has been taken in view of the overall inflation and rise in the agricultural input costs since 2010 when the limit was last revised.
- Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu launched two ambitious schemes, the Hirkani Maharashtrachi and District Business Plan Competition in Mumbai today.
- US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross on February 7, 2019 announced the names of the American private sector members of the US-India CEO Forum. MasterCard CEO Ajay Banga and Qualcomm CEO Steve Mollenkopf are among the members of the US-India CEO Forum.
- The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare on February 7, 2019 launched a platform named PM Kisan, <http://pmkisan.nic.in>, under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN) for uploading the details of the Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF).
- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu flagged off the Arunachal leg of the Startup India Yatra from civil secretariat in Itanagar.
- Engineers India Ltd (EIL) said that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Mongol Refinery State Owned LLC of Government of Mongolia.
- The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan launched the 'Dealer Owned Dealer Operated' (DODO) model for setting up CNG stations.
- Seven Banks were penalised by the Reserve Bank of India for violating various norms. Three banks- HDFC Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank and IDBI Bank - were fined Rs 2 million each for non-compliance with various directions issued by RBI on Know Your Customer (KYC) norms and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) standards.
- Kerala government launched an online mechanism that will ensure clearance to proposals within 30 days of application.

- **The Union Ministry of Textiles would be organising an outreach programme for textiles sector MSMEs on February 13, 2019 in New Delhi to hold interactions with the stakeholders to help them avail the support and outreach for 100 days programme announced by the Prime Minister.**
- **The government Wednesday approved a three-year extension of the Credit Linked Capital Subsidy and Technology Up-gradation Scheme for MSMEs with total outlay of 2,900 crore.**
- **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on Wednesday gave its approval for increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Raw Jute, for 2019-20 season.**
- **Four major banks – Bank of Baroda, Corporation bank, State Bank of India and Union Bank of India -- were on Wednesday penalized to pay a fine of Rs 5 crore by the Reserve bank of India.**
- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cleared Yes Bank of any disparity in reporting bad loans, known as divergence in market parlance, the private-sector lender said late evening Wednesday.**
- **The Bihar State Khadi and Village Industries Board signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the e-commerce giant Amazon to sell their products like saris, shirts and kurtas directly on Amazon India.**
- **The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the proposal for leasing out 1.61-acre land of the Delhi Milk Scheme in Delhi's Alipur to Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) to set up "Kisan Mandi" , said an official.**
- **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the continuation of sub-schemes under Umbrella programme for the development of Scheduled Tribes from the period till March 2020.**
- **The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for Extension of tenure of the National Commission for Safai Karmacharis (NCSK) beyond 31st of March,2019 for three years.**
- **The Indo-US Commercial Dialogue and the Indo-US CEO Forum will be held on February 14, 2019 in New Delhi.**
- **The Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the CREDAI YouthCon -19 on February 13, 2019 at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi.**
- **The Finance Ministry has asked the six remaining public sector banks, currently under Prompt Corrective Action (PCA), to improve on seven parameters to get the government's support for coming out of the PCA framework.**
- **India and the United States on February 14, 2019 held the India-US CEO Forum and India-US Commercial Dialogue in New Delhi. The Union Minister for Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu chaired the meeting.**
- **The Expert Committee led by Anoop Satpathy, Fellow of V. V. Giri National Labour Institute (VVGNI), on February 14, 2019 submitted its report on "Determining the Methodology for Fixation of the National Minimum Wage" to the Government.**
- **Amid rising instances of fraud using the Unified Payment Interface (UPI) platform, the Reserve Bank of India has cautioned all banks and payment system operators about a new modus operandi allegedly used by scammers to target customer phones.**
- **India and Singapore will sign an agreement for skilling Indian youths in the aviation sector at the Aero India Show next week. Academies will be set up in Bengaluru and other places in India that will act as regional hubs for the training of Indian youths for domestic and overseas jobs in these sectors.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various infrastructure and development projects worth 33,000 crore rupees at Barauni in Begusarai district of Bihar today. He laid the foundation stone of Patna Metro Rail Project at a cost of over 13,000 crore rupees via video conferencing. The project would be completed by 2024.**
- **India has raised the basic customs duty to 200 per cent on all goods imported from Pakistan with immediate effect following withdrawal the Most Favoured Nation, MFN status in the aftermath of the Pulwama terror attack.**
- **India on February 15, 2019 withdrew the 'Most-Favoured Nation' status accorded to Pakistan following the Pulwama terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir that led to the killing of 37 CRPF personnel and injuring of many others.**
- **IndianMoneyInsurance.com, a subsidiary of the Bengaluru-based IndianMoney.com Group, has received the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's insurance broking licence to enter the insurance business.**
- **The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), jointly with the State Bank of India and the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), organised a two-day workshop on 'Committee of Creditors: An Institution of Public Faith' in Mumbai.**

- The nations largest lender State Bank has begun a massive employee engagement programme to ensure its 2.6 lakh-strong staff does not work mechanically and is sufficiently motivated to take on newer challenges that the future will throw up, a top official has said.
- The Reserve Bank has announced that it will transfer an interim surplus of Rs 28,000 crore to the central government for the half-year ended 31st December, 2018.
- In the first-ever deal by an Indian company, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) on Monday said it has signed an annual deal worth USD 1.5 billion to import 3 million tonnes of crude oil in the fiscal year beginning April 1.
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari will inaugurate on Tuesday an upgraded version of e-commerce portal Port Community System (PCS) in Mumbai. The upgraded portal 'PCS1x' has been developed in record time by the Indian Ports Association, based on feedback from stakeholders using PCS.
- Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) Monday launched a new microinsurance plan 'Micro Bachat'. It is a regular premium, non-linked, participating endowment microinsurance plan, which offers a combination of protection and savings, LIC said in a statement.
- Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu has cleared a proposal aiming at simplifying the process of exemptions for Start-ups under Section 56 (2) (viib) of Income Tax Act.
- The government has approved recapitalisation of Rs 48,239 crore in 12 public sector banks in this fiscal to help them maintain regulatory capital requirements and finance growth plans.
- Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu on February 19, 2019 cleared proposals to encourage investments in Start-Ups, aiming at simplifying the process of exemptions for Start-ups from the 'Angel Tax' under Section 56 (2) (viib) of Income Tax Act, 1961.
- Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu launched SWAYATT initiative to promote Start-ups, Women and Youth Advantage through eTransactions on Government e Marketplace (GeM).
- After the successful first edition of States' Startup Ranking in 2018, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) released second edition of Startup Ranking for 2019.
- The Union Cabinet approved the Ahmedabad Metro Rail Project Phase-II which comprises two corridors of total length 28.254.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved to continue the existing schemes of MPDA, Khadi Grant, ISEC and Village Industry Grant, all subsumed under 'Khadi and Gramodyog Vikas Yojana' at the total cost of Rs. 2800 crore for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20.
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on February 19, 2019 approved the Promulgation of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Ordinance, 2019.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the India-Korea Startup Hub in Seoul during his visit to South Korea on February 21, 2019 while addressing the India-Korea Business Symposium.
- The 4th India-ASEAN Expo and Summit will be held on February 21-23, 2019 in New Delhi.
- India and Sri Lanka today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a business centre for ICT incubators in Jaffna through grant of 25 crore Sri Lankan rupees from India.
- Bank of Baroda on Wednesday said the merger of Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank with itself would be effective from April 1 as per the scheme of amalgamation approved by the government.
- NITI Aayog organised the 'Conference on Future of Indian Banking and role of technology' on February 22, 2019.
- The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), the retirement fund manager under the Union Labour Ministry, raised the interest rate on Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) accumulations to 8.65 percent for 2018-19.
- India and South Korea signed six agreements on Friday to enhance cooperation in key areas, including infrastructure development, media, start-ups and combating trans-border and international crime, during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the country.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday intervened, and made it harder for the non banking financial companies (NBFCs) to borrow from the commercial banks, hence making the credit flow slower, and more costly, the Financial Express reported.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on February 22 announced that it will merge three categories of Non Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) into a new one.
- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 24, 2019 launched the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN) from Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.

- Reserve Bank of India Monday extended by six months the deadline for compliance with Know Your Customer (KYC) norms, for prepaid payment instrument (PPI) issuers. The earlier deadline was February 28.
- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council met on February 24, 2019 for its 33rd meeting and slashed GST rate on under-construction residential properties and the affordable housing projects.
- The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) constituted three Working Groups to study and recommend measures to facilitate trade, promote exports and improve compliance.
- The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on February 26, 2019 for jointly developing infrastructure for fuels, lubricating oil, LPG, natural gas and any other related fuel and gas for meeting the requirement of national waterways.
- The FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited (FAGMIL) signed MoU with the Himachal Pradesh Government to establish a white cement plant near village Nohra Dhar in Sirmour district, Himachal Pradesh at a project cost of approximately Rs. 605 crores.
- Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Shipping and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Nitin Gadkari laid the **foundation stone for an elevated structure and vehicular underpass (VUP) on NH-44 at Phagwara City in Kapurthala district of Punjab.**
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday lifted lending curbs on two more public sector banks (PSBs), namely Allahabad Bank and Corporation Bank, besides also freeing private lender Dhanlaxmi Bank from the Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) Framework. Last month, Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra and Oriental Bank of Commerce were taken out of the PCA Framework.
- Real estate developer Brigade Group on Wednesday announced signing of a memorandum of understanding with Technopark, an autonomous organisation fully owned by the Kerala state government, for developing an iconic World Trade Centre at Technocity in Thiruvananthapuram.
- Following a six month ban on starting new accounts by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Paytm Payments Banks has launched a zero balance current account with features such as unlimited free digital transactions and free debit card etc.
- DCB Bank announced the launch of its Open Banking Platform, a significant step towards creating a collaborative ecosystem with enterprises, fintechs and app developers, and enhancing customer-service delivery.
- Private Sector lender ICICI Bank announced the launch of a new addition to its 'Gemstone collection of credit cards'.
- Petroleum Minister Dhramendra Pradhan on February 27, 2019 gave Rs 34 crore of Indian Oil Corporation for clean Ganga movement.
- The Defence Acquisition Council has approved the acquisition of defence equipment for about Rs 2700 crores.

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- Minister of Railways, Piyush Goyal on January 30, 2019 launched the “The Future of Rail” report of the International Energy Agency (IEA).
- PETROTECH-2019, the 13th International Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition, being organised under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, is all set to be inaugurated on February 10, 2019.
- Microsoft signed an MoU with the Sikkim Government to revamp the educational system in the state.
- Air India announced to resume its services from New Delhi to the holy city of Najaf in Iraq after 25 years.
- An international body and a Tata Trusts-backed collaboration have signed an MoU to accelerate the roll-out of new, people-centred innovations in the fight against tuberculosis (TB) in India and other countries.
- BioChem USA and Department of Industries, Government of Gujarat in February, 2019 *signed an MoU in the presence of Chief Minister Vijay Rupani for setting up of a Biorefinery in Dahej Petroleum Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Region (PCPIR) at an estimated investment of Rs 3000 crores.*
- Union Minister of Railways & Coal Piyush Goyal was on January 30, 2019 formally conferred with the fourth annual Carnot Prize by the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy at the University of Pennsylvania School of Design in New Delhi.
- The Dabur India Ltd board has approved the appointment of Mohit Malhotra as the company’s New Chief Executive Officer with effect from April 1, 2019.

- In Bihar, **Gupteshwar Pandey** in February, 2019 appointed as new **Director General of Police (DGP)**.
- **Gujarat government** has announced an increase in **Dearness allowance** of more than **9.61 lakh employees and pensioners** by 2 per cent.
- **The United Nations Security Council** has adopted a resolution to extend sanctions against the **Central African Republic (CAR)** for another year.
- **The United States** has urged **Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro** to accept an **amnesty offer** from opposition leader **Juan Guaido**, whom Washington has recognised as President.
- **Scientists** have first time created an **artificial intelligence (AI) based system** that directly translates thoughts into intelligible, recognisable speech.
- **India captain Mithali Raj** in February, 2019 became the first female cricketer to play **200 ODIs**, adding another achievement to her illustrious career.
- **In Chess**, five-time world champion **Viswanathan Anand** had to be content with a **joint third-place finish** after settling for a draw with compatriot **Vidit Gujrathi** in the 13th and final round of the **Tata Steel Masters** at **Wijk Aan Zee**, the Netherlands.
- **India** in February, 2019 appointed **Sanjiv Ranjan** as its new **Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia**, Ministry of External Affairs announced in February, 2019.
- **Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar P** in February, 2019 took over as the **Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command** in Mumbai.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** in February, 2019 visited all the three regions of **Kashmir, Jammu & Ladakh** to inaugurate and lay foundation stones for various development projects.
- PM Modi dedicated to the nation the railway electrification of the **294-km-long Andal-Sainthia-Pakur-Malda and the Khana-Sainthia sections**.
- **NBCC**, a Navratna Central Public Sector Enterprises, will construct an **Ayurveda and Naturopathy hospital** in Goa at a cost of over **267 crore rupees**.
- **The Andhra Pradesh High Court new building at Amaravathy**, was inaugurated in February, 2019 by the **Chief Justice of India, Ranjan Gogoi**. It's after functioning from Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister's Camp Office for over a month's time, the AP High Court in February, 2019 moved to a new building at Amaravathy on a temporary basis.
- **P V Bharathi**, executive director of **Canara Bank**, has assumed charge as **managing director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the city-based Corporation Bank**, a statement said.
- **Rishi Kumar Shukla**, 1983 batch IPS officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre, was on February 2, 2019 appointed as the **new chief of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)**.
- **Former Law Minister of Nepal Nilambar Acharya** has been appointed as **country's ambassador to India**.
- **Pope Francis** landed in **Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE)**, on a historic visit, becoming the first pontiff to visit the **Arabian peninsula**. He was received at the airport by the **Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed**.
- Aged just **16 years and 146 days**, **Nepal's Rohit Paudel** became the **youngest male player to record a half-century in international cricket** when he hit 55 in 58 balls in a One-Day International against the UAE in February, 2019 (January 26).
- **Nepal's Sundeep Jora** became the **youngest cricketer to score a half-century in T20 Internationals**.
- **The World Cancer Day 2019** was observed across the world on **February 4, 2019** with theme **"I Am and I Will"**.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on January 31, 2019 unveiled its **Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC)** at **ISRO Headquarter campus in Bengaluru, Karnataka** for its maiden manned space mission '**Gaganyaan**'.
- **The Union Ministry of Coal** on February 4, 2019 signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **Ministry of Energy, Republic of Poland** in **New Delhi** on cooperation in the field of coal mining.
- **Union Minister of State for Railways and Communication, Manoj Sinha** released a special postage stamp of the **Indian Postal Department** on **Kumbh Mela**.
- **UK Home Secretary Sajid Javid** in February, 2019 ordered the extradition of **Vijay Mallya** to India, in a major blow to the embattled liquor baron.
- **External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj** and **Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari** in February, 2019 flagged off **Suraksha Yatra - a motor car rally** from **Rajghat** in **New Delhi** to commemorate the **150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi**. The flag off was also part of an event to launch the **30th National Road Safety Week**.
- **Sri Lanka** celebrated its **71st Independence Day** on **February 4, 2019** in **Colombo**.

- **Veteran Marathi actor Ramesh Bhatkar passed away in February, 2019 after a battle with cancer.**
- **The Delhi government in February, 2019 kicked off its pilot project of creating Delhi's first 'zero fatality corridor' while also issuing actionable points to all agencies to ensure a 10% reduction in road accidents by the end of the year.**
- **The Maharashtra government has set up a committee to review various schemes being implemented for the welfare of tribals in the state.**
- **The Union Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in February 2019 launched the Shehri Samridhi Utsav, an initiative that aims to extend the outreach of Deendayal Antyodaya Mission – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) to the most vulnerable.**
- **Indian Space Research Organisation's latest communication satellite, GSAT-31 was successfully launched by Arianespace aboard its launch vehicle Ariane 5 from the spaceport in French Guiana on February 5, 2019.**
- **The United States President Donald Trump has nominated acting Interior Secretary David Bernhardt as the new Interior Secretary.**
- **Former mayor of San Salvador, Nayib Bukele has claimed victory in the El Salvador's presidential election.**
- **The United Kingdom along with other European nations such as Germany and France on January 31, 2019 set up a new transaction channel called 'INSTEX' that will allow companies to continue trading with Iran despite US sanctions.**
- **The Iranian Judiciary Chief Amoli Larijani on February 4, 2019 said that 50,000 convicts will receive pardons from Leader Ayatollah Khamenei on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution.**
- **President Donald Trump announced on February 5, 2019 that he will hold the second summit with the North Korean leader, Kim Jong Un in Vietnam on February 27-28, 2019 as part of his administration's endeavours to denuclearise North Korea.**
- **International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation observed globally on 6 February, 2019. The theme observed for 2019 was #EndFGM and #Womenmatter.**
- **The Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) on February 6, 2019 launched the 'Darwaza Band -Part 2' campaign for sustainability of the Open Defecation Free (ODF) status of villages across the country.**
- **India and Germany have joined hands for cooperation on Water and Waste Management.**
- **The second foreign office consultations between India and New Zealand was held in February, 2019 in New Delhi.**
- **The Cabinet has approved amendments to the Cinematograph Act, 1952 to tackle film piracy and Copyright infringement.**
- **The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for the establishment of Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog for conservation, protection and development of cows and their progeny.**
- **The Union Cabinet approved the establishment of Circuit Bench of Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri.**
- **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the Proposal of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting regarding Prasar Bharati's "Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development" scheme at a cost of Rs.1054.52 crore for 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).**
- **The government in February, 2019 formally cleared the proposal to promote Praveen Sinha, a 1988-batch Gujarat cadre officer working in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) as a joint director, as additional director in the agency.**
- **Air India Chief Pradeep Singh Kharola was appointed as the Civil Aviation Secretary as part of a minor bureaucratic reshuffle.**
- **The President, Ram Nath Kovind conferred the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for the year 2017 on February 6, 2019 at Rashtrapati Bhawan during a special investiture ceremony.**
- **The Bureau of Police Research and Development, BPRD will organise the 2nd National Conference of Micro Missions of National Police Mission in New Delhi on February 7, 2019.**
- **The Union Health and Family Welfare Secretary Preeti Sudan has reviewed the state of preparedness and action taken to deal with H1N1 influenza cases in New Delhi.**
- **The Maharashtra government on February 6, 2019 announced that it will soon make forcing a woman to undergo virginity test a punishable offence.**
- **The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 6, 2019 approved the proposal of the Ministry of Power to allocate 85 per cent power from Telangana Super Thermal Power Project (4000MW) of NTPC Ltd to the Telangana government.**

- **The East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) on Thursday for the disposal and management of solid waste in its jurisdiction.**
- **Punjab Government on Thursday inked an MoU with the Government of Alberta, Canada.**
- **The 5th India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Committee Meeting will be held in New Delhi today.**
- **Dinkar Gupta has taken over the charge of Director General of the Punjab Police.**
- **The US President, Donald Trump has nominated senior Treasury official David Malpass as the next chief of the World Bank.**
- **Macedonia on February 6, 2019 signed an accord to join NATO to become the 30th member of the US-led alliance.**
- **Three-time World Cup-winning former Australian captain Ricky Ponting will be part of Australia's coaching staff for the 2019 ICC World Cup.**
- **India climbed eight places in the 2019 International Intellectual Property (IP) Index, ranking at 36th position among 50 countries. The Index was topped by the United States with 42.66 points out of 45, followed by the United Kingdom (42.22) at 2nd, Sweden (41.03) at 3rd and Germany (41.00) at 4th.**
- **The Jammu and Kashmir Governor, Satya Pal Malik on February 8, 2019 granted the Divisional Status to Ladakh Region, while exercising its powers under Section 5 of Land Revenue Act, 1996.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that basic infrastructure has been a long-standing demand of Arunachal Pradesh which was ignored by the previous governments.**
- **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.**
- **The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs on February 8, 2019 instituted the 'PMAY (U) awards for Implementation and Innovation' under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) to reward the "Top Performers" in different categories and attain the goal of 'Housing for All' in a sustained manner.**
- **The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas observed the Ujjwala Utsav to celebrate the stellar role played by all stakeholders such as district nodal officers, policy makers, distributors and beneficiaries in making Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) a success.**
- **The 5th India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Committee Meeting was held in New Delhi.**
- **The India Pavilion at the Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) 2019 was inaugurated by Director European Film Market, (EFM) Matthijis Wouter Knol.**
- **Sailesh assumed the charge as Secretary of Ministry of Minority Affairs on February 7, 2019.**
- **Lieutenant General Ranbir Singh, GOC-in-C of Northern Command presented the Sena medals to 92 army men at an investiture ceremony for their gallantary and distinguished services.**
- **The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has instituted a challenge for States and Union Territories to select six sites across the country for constructing the lighthouse projects under Global Housing Technology Challenge- India (GHTC- India)**
- **The Supreme Court on February 11, 2019 directed the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) to take a decision within three months on a representation seeking guidelines to redefine the term 'Minority'.**
- **The first batch of four Boeing heavy-lift Chinook Helicopters, CH-47F (I), arrived at the Mundra airport in Gujarat on February 10, 2019.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 9, 2019 laid the foundation stone for the Sela Tunnel Project in Arunachal Pradesh during his visit to Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Tripura.**
- **In Rajasthan, Jaipur based Sapta Shakti Command of Indian Army conducted a two- day Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise "Exercise Rahat".**
- **PM visited Assam as a part of his visit to Arunachal, Assam and Tripura.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Hubli, Karnataka in the final leg of his one day long tour to Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.**
- **The Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Tiruppur in Tamil Nadu and unveiled several development projects in the State.**
- **The Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Vrindavan in Uttar Pradesh on February 11, 2019.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 11, 2019 inaugurated the 13th International Oil and Gas Conference - PETROTECH-2019 at India Expo Centre in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.**

- **Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi on February 10, 2019 took over as the chair of the African Union (AU) following a meeting by heads of state from the continent in Ethiopia's capital city, Addis Ababa.**
- **The Abu Dhabi Judicial Department (ADJD) has added Hindi as the third official language to be used in the city's courts, alongside Arabic and English.**
- **International Day of Women and Girls in Science is observed on 11 February, 2019. The 2019 Theme was "Investment in Women and Girls in Science for Inclusive Green Growth".**
- **Kacey Musgraves, Childish Gambino, Cardi B and QuinCY Jones created history by winning the 2019 Grammy Awards held at Staples Center in Los Angeles.**
- **The team of 'Gully Boy' movie including Ranveer Singh, Alia Bhatt, Zoya Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani visited the India Pavilion at Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) 2019.**
- **Delhi government has launched bike ambulance services to ensure health assistance reaches on time in the congested areas of the national capital.**
- **Rajasthan School Education Minister Govind Singh Dotasara Wednesday launched 'Rajiv Gandhi Career Portal' for students from classes 9 to 12.**
- **The Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on February 11, 2019 signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to launch the 'India-Norway Marine Pollution Initiative'.**
- **The Ministry of Human Resource Development has decided to take immediate steps to implement the recommendations of a committee, which it had constituted in 2018 to make a report for the promotion and protection of Maithili language and its scripts.**
- **President Ram Nath Kovind on February 12, 2019 unveiled the life size portrait of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee at the Central Hall of Parliament.**
- **The Union Information and Broadcasting Ministry will organise the first annual conference of Media Units in New Delhi on February 13, 2019.**
- **The Supreme Court on February 12, 2019 referred the petition seeking withdrawal of minority status of the Aligarh Muslim University to a seven-judge bench.**
- **Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban on February 10, 2019 announced new measures, under which increasing financial aid and subsidies will be provided to families that have more than three children.**
- **US President Donald Trump on February 11, 2019 signed an executive order directing federal agencies to prioritise research and development in Artificial Intelligence (AI).**
- **The US cargo spacecraft Cygnus was released from the International Space Station (ISS) on February 8, 2019.**
- **The Shilanyas ceremony of the Hindu temple to be built in Abu Dhabi is scheduled on the April 20, 2019.**
- **Rina Mitra, a 1983-batch IPS officer, who retired on January 31 as special secretary (internal security) in the Union home ministry, has been appointed as principal adviser (internal security) in the West Bengal government.**
- **Indian historian Sanjay Subrahmanyam on February 10, 2019 won the prestigious Dan David Prize 2019 for his work on inter-cultural encounters between Asians, Europeans and people of North and South America during the early modern era.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 12, 2019 participated in Swachh Shakti 2019 event and distributed the Swachh Shakti 2019 Awards during his visit to Kurukshetra, Haryana.**
- **The 2019 World Radio Day is observed on 13 February, 2019. The theme of 2019 World Radio Day is "Dialogue, Tolerance and Peace."**
- **Union Minister of Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal on February 12, 2019 commissioned Godavari Mega Aqua Food Park at Tundurru Village in Bhimavaram Mandal, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh through video conferencing.**
- **The Union Cabinet has approved the introduction of Registration of Marriage of Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Bill, 2019.**
- **The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday approved the proposal for allotment of 30 acre land to Pasteur Institute of India (PII) for establishment of New Viral Vaccine Manufacturing Unit at Coonoor in Tamil Nadu.**
- **The NITI Aayog on February 12, 2019 signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) with the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation (MSDF) to codify, document and share best practices to improve learning outcomes in public school**

education through systemic reforms, based on their collective experiences of working with various state governments in India.

- **The Defence Ministry on February 12, 2019 issued Expression of Interest to shortlist potential Indian strategic partners and foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) for the procurement of 111 Naval Utility Helicopters (NUH) for the Indian Navy at an estimated cost of over Rs 21,000 crore.**
- **The Parliament on February 13, 2019 passed the Personal Laws (Amendment Bill), 2018 that seeks to remove leprosy as a ground for divorce.** The bill was passed after upper house of the Parliament Rajya Sabha approved it without discussion.
- **Under the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), 5,67,88,890 enrolments have been made till December 2018.**
- **It is likely that over 133 million new jobs may emerge by 2022. However, at the same time, 75 million jobs may be displaced.**
- **Australia spin legend Shane Warne has been named the brand ambassador of Rajasthan Royals for the upcoming Indian Premier League.**
- **National Film Development Corporation of India has been declared winner under the Miniratna Category (Category II) by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).**
- **The state government of Bihar has announced a universal old age pension scheme called Mukhyamantri Vridhajan Pension Yojna (MVPY) for all people above 60 years of age.**
- **Minister of State for AYUSH, Shripad Yesso Naik on February 13, 2019 launched the e-AUSHADHI portal, for online licensing of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs and related matters at New Delhi.**
- **The Union Cabinet has given its approval to the cabinet note on the proposal for official amendments in the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2016 so as to modify the list of scheduled tribes of Chhattisgarh.**
- **The third Indo-German Environment Forum with the theme "Cleaner Air, Greener Economy" was held in New Delhi on February 13, 2019.**
- **CBDT Chairman Sushil Chandra was on Thursday appointed the new Election Commissioner ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, making the poll panel a three-member entity again.**
- **In United States, William Barr was sworn for second time as the nation's Attorney General, taking the helm of the Justice Department as special counsel Robert Mueller investigates Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election.**
- **India's Prajnesh Gunneswaran has made it to the top-100 of Men's Singles Tennis rankings with a jump of six places that took him to 97.**
- **The US House of Representatives on February 13, 2019 approved a resolution that would end US support for the Saudi Arabia-led coalition in the war in Yemen.**
- **Australian legislators have passed a landmark bill making it easier for asylum seekers, being held on remote Pacific islands, to get medical treatment in the country.**
- **The Indian Air Force today carried out an exercise in Pokhran, Rajasthan, involving around 140 fighter jets and attack helicopters.**
- **President Ram Nath Kovind launched Digital Kisan Platform in the Fourth Agri Leadership Summit, organised by the Haryana government at Gannaur in Sonipat district today.**
- **Minister of State (I/C) for Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep S Puri on February 14, 2019 launched the PMAY (U) mobile application in New Delhi.**
- **A UAE-based international cooling provider has entered into a 30-year concession with Andhra Pradesh government to build, own, operate and transfer India's first district cooling system in the state's new capital Amaravati.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 15, 2019 flagged off India's first Semi High Speed Train, 'Vande Bharat Express' on New Delhi-Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi route from the New Delhi Railway Station.**
- **The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) on February 15, 2019 launched a new portal called 'LADIS' – Least Available Depth Information System in New Delhi to ensure optimum use of national waterways.**
- **The Union Tourism Ministry recently made a series of amendments in India's e-visa regime, liberalising it further and making it more tourist friendly.** The e-tourist Visa, which was introduced in September 2014 with 46 countries has now been made applicable for 166 countries.

- **Flight Lieutenant Hina Jaiswal has created history by becoming the first Indian Woman Flight Engineer. She successfully completed the Flight Engineers' course at 112 Helicopter Unit attached to the Air Force Station, Yelahanka here.**
- **Major Gopal Mitra became the first differently-abled person from India to be appointed at the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).**
- **Indian President Ram Nath Kovind would be presenting the Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony to Rajkumar Singhajit Singh, Bangladesh cultural organisation Chhayanaut and Ram Sutar Vanji for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively on February 18, 2019 at Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra, New Delhi.**
- **NASA's Mars rover Opportunity was officially declared dead on February 13, 2019, after having contributed almost 15 years of grand services.**
- **NITI Aayog and Saudi Centre for International Strategic Partnerships (SCISP) have agreed to provide continuing momentum to the India-Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership.**
- **RS officer Pramod Chandra Mody on Friday took over as the new chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), the policy making body of the Income Tax Department.**
- **American multinational investment bank JP Morgan has created first US bank-backed blockchain-based asset called JPM Coin for its wholesale payments business.**
- **Veteran West Indies batsman Chris Gayle has announced that he will retire from One-day Internationals after this year's World Cup in England and Wales. The announcement was made by West Indies Cricket on February 17, 2019.**
- **Vidarbha capped off a fairytale 2018-19 season by defending their Irani Cup title at the Jamtha Stadium in Nagpur on Saturday (February 16) thanks to a 95-run first innings lead after the match ended in a draw.**
- **Mumbai hosted India's first ever Mallakhamb World Championship.**
- **India and Argentina exchanged 10 Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) and agreements during the Argentine President Mauricio Macri's ongoing three-day visit to India from February 17 to 19. Six MoUs were exchanged between the two sides including an MoU on Defence Cooperation.**
- **India and Morocco on Monday signed four MoUs following the delegation-level talks between External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and her Moroccan counterpart Nasser Bourita in Rabat.**
- **Women and Child Development (WCD) Ministry will on Tuesday launch three initiatives, including safety tool "Panic Button" and DNA analysis facilities, said an official on Monday. The initiatives will be jointly launched by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and WCD Minister Maneka Gandhi.**
- **Jindal Stainless, a subsidiary of JSL Lifestyle Ltd, commissioned its first dedicated facility for the railways in Chennai Monday and expects a revenue of Rs 300 crore.**
- **The Gujarat government has formed a special board for the transgender community, an official release said Monday. The 'Transgender Welfare Board' has been constituted by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment to provide social security to the community, it said.**
- **Senior IPS officer Manoj Yadava was on Monday appointed as Haryana's Director General of Police.**
- **Lebanon has appointed the Arab world's first female interior minister Raya al-Hassan in its new government,**
- **Discovery Asia Pacific has appointed Megha Tata as Managing Director - South Asia, Discovery Communications India, effective April 01, 2019.**
- **Iran has launched 'cruise missile capable' submarine amid heightening tension with the United States.**
- **Russian President Vladimir Putin and his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron have agreed to continue coordination of the two countries in order to facilitate the peace settlement in Syria.**
- **US President Donald Trump's pick to be America's new UN ambassador, Heather Nauert, has withdrawn her nomination for the post.**
- **US President Donald Trump on February 15, 2019 signed an executive order declaring national emergency in the nation. The move would unblock billions of dollars of federal money to construct a wall along the US-Mexico border.**
- **Home Minister Rajnath Singh and Minister for Women and Child Development Maneka Gandhi today launched a range of citizen safety initiatives in New Delhi.**
- **The House on Saturday passed the Himachal Pradesh Official Language (Amendment) Bill, 2019, paving the way for making Sanskrit the second official language of the state.**
- **Two day long One Health India Conference, 2019 was today inaugurated in New Delhi.**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 19, 2019 **flagged off the first ever diesel to electric converted locomotive twin engine of ten thousand Horse Power at DLW Varanasi.**
- **The All Indian Cine Workers Association has announced a total ban on all the Pakistani artists working in the film industry.**
- **Dr G C Anupama**, Senior Professor (Dean) from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru, on Monday **became the first woman to be elected president of Astronomical Society of India (ASI), prime association of professional astronomers in the country.**
- **Additional Director General of West Bengal Police (law and order) Anuj Sharma was on Tuesday appointed as the new Kolkata Police Commissioner** after his predecessor Rajeev Kumar was transferred as ADG & IGP of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID).
- **Laureus World Sports Awards 2019 were announced at the Laureus Awards Ceremony in Monaco.**
- Ace Indian wrestler **Vinesh Phogat became the first Indian to receive a nomination in the prestigious Laureus World Sports Awards.**
- Information and Broadcasting Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore on Tuesday gave away **the 7th National Photography Awards to 13 persons in different categories at a function in New Delhi.**
- **India's national football captain Sunil Chhetri has been conferred the first ever Football Ratna honour by Football Delhi.** The governing body for football in the Capital conferred the honour on India's leading international goal scorer at a glittering ceremony at the Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi.
- **Eight-time world champion Nicol David has announced she will retire at the end of the 2018-19 squash season,** bringing down the curtain on the Malaysian's illustrious career.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on February 19, 2019 **approved the launch of 'Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan' with the objective of providing financial and water security to farmers.**
- **KP-Bot is India's first humanoid Police robot that will work at the Kerala Police Headquarters in the state capital. It has been given the Sub Inspector (SI) rank.**
- The Union Cabinet on February 19, 2019 **approved the National Policy on Electronics 2019 (NPE 2019), proposed by the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).**
- The Union Cabinet on February 19, 2019 approved the **setting up of a new company under Department of Space (DoS) to commercially exploit the research and development work carried out by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) Centers and constituent units of DOS.**
- **Government launched Operation Digital Board on the lines of Operation Blackboard to provide better digital education in schools.**
- The Union Cabinet approved continuation of the **Swadesh Darshan Scheme during 14th Finance Commission period and beyond.**
- Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) **received the bulk production clearance (BPC) from the Indian Army and the Ministry of Defence on February 18, 2018 for production of 114 'Dhanush', the first ever indigenous 155mm x 45 calibre artillery gun.**
- **The 12th edition of Asia's premier Air show 'Aero India-2019' began at Yelahanka Air Force Station, Bengaluru.**
- **In Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram hosted the Attaukal Ponkala festival which is considered as one of the world's largest religious gathering of women on a single day.**
- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the newly established **Virtual Experiential Museum (VEM) in a Centrally Protected Monument under Archeological Survey of India, Man – Mahal, situated on the bank of the Ganges at Varanasi.**
- The Union Cabinet approved creation of **one post of Secretary in the level 17 (Rs.2,25,000 fixed per month) and one post of Joint Secretary in the level 14 (Rs.144200-218200 per month) in the newly created Department of Fisheries on permanent basis.**
- The Union Cabinet approved the implementation of **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G) beyond March 2019 (PMAY-G) Phase-II.**
- The Union Cabinet approved the Implementation of an Externally Aided Project namely **"National Rural Economic Transformation Project" (NRETP) under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) through loan assistance from World Bank.**

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the revision of norms under 'Mid Day Meal Scheme' with an outlay of Rs 12,054 Crore for 2019-20 in addition to the subsidy of about Rs 8000 crore borne by Department of Food & Public Distribution.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the Phase-II of Grid Connected Rooftop Solar Programme for achieving cumulative capacity of 40,000 MW from Rooftop Solar (RTS) Projects by the year 2022.
- 2019 International Mother Language Day is observed globally on 21 February, 2019. The theme of 2019 International Mother Language Day is "Local languages for Global Citizenship: Spotlight on Science".
- The 2019 World Day of Social Justice was observed globally on 20 February, 2019. The theme of 2019 World Day of Social Justice is "If You Want Peace & Development, Work for Social Justice".
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) banned UAE-based coach Irfan Ansari for 10 years after he was found guilty of making a "corrupt approach" to Pakistan captain Sarfaraz Ahmed in 2017.
- Noted Hindi writer Namvar Singh passed away in New Delhi. He was 92.
- The Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, who is also the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of Saudi Arabia, visited India on February 19-20, 2019.
- Landmark day for India's defence sector, India's first self-made fighter jet, Light Combat Aircraft Tejas MK I (LCA Tejas) on February 20, 2019 received the Final Operational Clearance for induction into the Indian Air Force (IAF) as a fully-weaponised fighter jet.
- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on February 21, 2019 announced to conduct a pan-India survey called 'All India Citizens Survey of Police Services' to gauge public perception of police.
- In a significant decision, the Ministry of Home Affairs approved the entitlement of air travel on Delhi-Srinagar, Srinagar-Delhi, Jammu-Srinagar and Srinagar-Jammu sectors to all the personnel of Central Armed Paramilitary Forces (CAPFs).
- Sri Lanka's 150 students from all 25 districts were awarded the prestigious Mahatma Gandhi scholarships for study in India.
- The 'VIVID-Vision Insight and Voices as India goes Digital'- the District Informatics Officer (DIO) meet was inaugurated by National Informatics Centre (NIC) on February 21, 2019.
- Union Minister of State for Food Processing Industries Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti inaugurated Sikaria Mega Food Park Pvt Ltd at Village Tulakona in Agartala.
- The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and University of British Columbia (UBC), Canada signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for next 10 years in New Delhi.
- Justice Uma Nath Singh will take oath as the First Lokayukta of Nagaland today
- The National Informatics Centre (NIC) will organize the fifth edition of Digital India Awards on February 22, 2019.
- US President Donald Trump signed an executive order to establish its Space Force as a new armed service within the Department of Air Force.
- Sports Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore inaugurated the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup in New Delhi.
- President promulgates four Ordinances including Ordinance banning Triple Talaq; Unregulated Deposit Schemes
- The Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the "Waste to Wonder" Park under the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC).
- The Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and Hughes India entered into a Teaming Agreement for design, development, supply, installation, integration and commissioning of Satellite Communication solutions for helicopters under the Ministry of Defence at Aero India 2019, Bengaluru.
- The National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Organizations (NABH) revamped Entry-Level Certification Process to make it simpler, digital, faster and user-friendly.
- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated Nellore All India Radio FM Station in Andhra Pradesh and asserted that radio broadcasting has made a comeback in the era of continuous bombardment of visual content.
- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu initiated a series of railway projects including the inauguration of the much-awaited new railway line between Venkatachalem -Vellikallu and Obulavaripalle - Cherlopalli (part of Krishnapatnam - Obulavaraipalle rail line project).
- President Ram Nath Kovind on February 21, 2019 unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi at the Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha in Chennai.
- The Union Minister of State of Development of North-Eastern Region (DoNER), Jitendra Singh addressed the launch of 'Shisht Bharat Abhiyan' organised by an NGO.

- **Union Minister for Water Resources, Nitin Gadkari announced that the Government has decided to stop the share of river waters which flow into Pakistan.**
- **President gave his assent to the Amendments to the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 which were introduced as part of the Finance Act, 2019.** The Finance Bill 2019 was passed by both the Houses of Parliament, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, on February 12, 2019 and February 13, 2019 respectively.
- **The Supreme Court appointed former apex court judge Justice DK Jain as the first court-appointed ombudsman for the BCCI under the terms of newly approved constitution of the cricket board.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 22, 2019 received the prestigious Seoul Peace Prize 2018 for his contribution to international cooperation and fostering global economic growth.**
- **External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj will attend the inaugural meeting of the foreign ministers' conclave of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC),** a powerful grouping of Muslim majority nations, as India has been invited to attend the plenary in Abu Dhabi.
- **Indu Bhushan, the CEO of Ayushman Bharat, on February 22, 2019 announced that over 12 lakh people received free treatment under the Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY),** while around two crore beneficiary e-cards have been issued since the launch of mission in September 2018.
- **The Delhi government on Friday launched the first phase of the "Connect Delhi" initiative covering the Najafgarh area of the national capital.**
- **Kamal Nath government on Friday started doling out funds by launching the ambitious project formally from Ratlam district in Madhya Pradesh.**
- **Apurvi Chandela on Saturday broke World Record to register India's first gold medal at the ISSF World Cup 2019.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 25, 2019 dedicated the National War Memorial to the nation in a solemn ceremonial function in New Delhi.**
- **The 12th biennial edition of International Aerospace and Defence Exhibition, Aero India 2019 culminated on February 24, 2019 at Air Force Station Yelahanka in Bengaluru.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi will confer the National Youth Parliament Festival 2019 awards to the winners on February 27, 2019 at Vigyan Bhawan.**
- **The Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh will inaugurate 29 infrastructure projects (both residential and non-residential buildings) of Central Armed Police Forces (BSF, CRPF, CISF, ITBP, NDRF & SSB).**
- **Railway Minister Piyush Goyal launched Rail Drishti Dashboard in New Delhi to keep people informed about the work going on in the Railways across the country.**
- **Union Home Ministry announced the hike in Risk and Hardship allowance for Central Armed Police Forces personnel deployed in Left Wing Extremism states and Jammu and Kashmir.**
- **Union minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey launched 'National Action Plan - Viral Hepatitis',** a national programme aimed at eliminating viral hepatitis, recognized as an important public health problem.
- **Afghanistan has begun exports to India through Iran's Chabahar port.**
- **Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on February 26, 2019 launched the PRANAM Commission, which is a panel set up to look after the issues concerning a Bill brought in for the protection of parents of state government employees.**
- **India and Bangladesh will be conducting a joint military exercise, 'Exercise Sampriti 2019' at Tangail, Bangladesh from March 2 to March 15, 2019.**
- **The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) would be launching an electronic intelligence satellite Emisat for Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in March 2019.**
- **The National Cancer Institute (NCI) at Jhajjar, Haryana, recently dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is an integral part of All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.**
- **The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is conducting a two-day national workshop on heat wave risk reduction on February 27-28, 2019.**
- **Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Thaawarchand Gehlot on February 27, 2019 launched the '2nd Edition of Indian Sign Language (ISL) Dictionary'.**
- **Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu inaugurated National Institutes of Design (NID) at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh and Jorhat in Assam through video conference from New Delhi.**
- **Former Sri Lankan Cricket captain Sanath Jayasuriya has been banned from cricket for a period of two years.**
- **Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari has been re-elected for a second four year term.**

- The Union Government announced on February 27, 2019 that it has brought 42 non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs under price control, capping trade margin at 30 per cent, which would reduce their retail prices by up to 85 per cent.
- Union Minister of Railways & Coal, Piyush Goyal on February 27, 2019 launched a new facility for Public Viewing of Train Charts and Vacant Berths to enhance travel experience and bring greater transparency for Indian Railway passengers.
- The Union Minister for Human Resources Development, Prakash Javadekar on February 27, 2019 launched the 'Scheme for Higher Education Youth in Apprenticeship and Skills' (SHREYAS) for providing industry apprenticeship or training opportunities to fresh graduates of 2019.
- Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office, *Dr Jitendra Singh on February 27, 2019 presented the National e-Governance Awards, 2019 in New Delhi.*
- In Madhya Pradesh, the Central Zone Power Distribution Company, Bhopal and West Zone Power Distribution Company, Indore have been awarded the Saubhagya award under Pradhanmantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana at the National Conference of Energy Ministers. The award included Rs 100 crore each.
- In Tennis, India's Prajnesh Gunneswaran achieved his career-best ranking, rising three places to 94th in the latest list.
- In Chess, Indian Grandmaster Abhijeet Gupta lifted the Cannes International Open trophy yesterday.
- The Asian Hockey Federation has honoured Indian skipper Manpreet Singh with the 2018 Player of the Year award. Women team's striker Lalremsiami has bagged the Rising Player of The Year prize.
- *In Cuba, voters took part in a referendum on a new constitution that expands recognition of private property.*
- The National Science Day 2019 was observed across India on February 28, 2019 to mark the discovery of the Raman Effect by Indian physicist Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman (CV Raman).
- World Rare Disease Day is observed on 29th February on Leap Years. **2019 World Rare Disease Day is observed on 28th February, 2019.** The theme of 2019 World Rare Disease Day is **Show your rare, show your care.**
- The 2019 World NGO Day was observed globally on 27 February, 2019. The theme of 2019 World NGO Day was **Celebrating Diversity & Inclusion.**

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