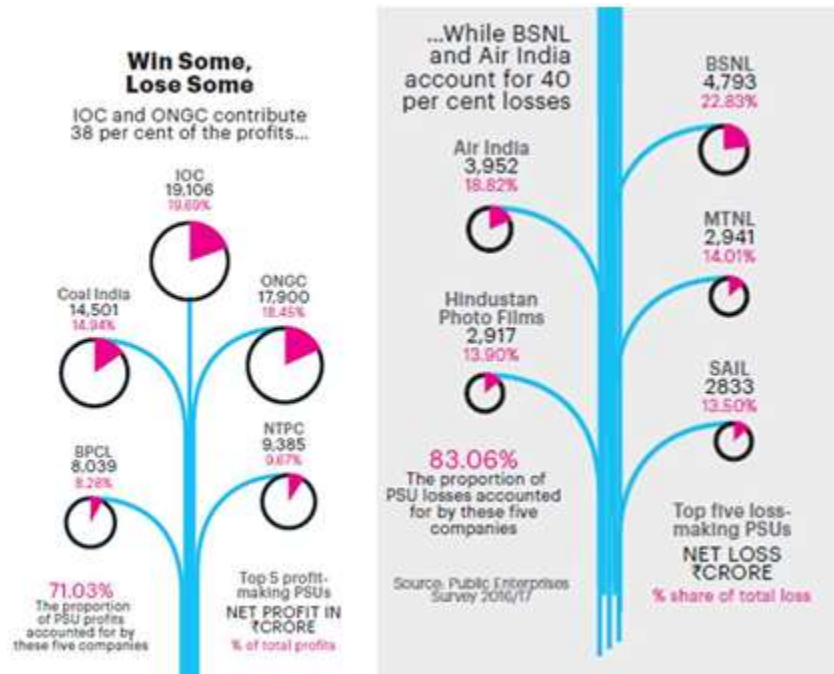




NATIONAL



NABCB Accreditation Secures Recognition in Asia-Pacific Region

- ❖ The NABCB, India's national accreditation body, has secured equivalence for its accreditation programme for OHSMS Certification Bodies in Asia - Pacific region.
 - National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies – NABCB
 - Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems - OHSMS
- ❖ It has signed the Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) of the Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC).
- ❖ It is a constituent Board of the Quality Council of India, responsible for accreditation of certification/inspection bodies as per applicable international standards under an international system of equivalence.
- ❖ NABCB can facilitate export of Indian goods in the global market by attesting that these are certified as per international standards by competent certifying bodies.
- ❖ It is the third accreditation body in the Asia-Pacific region (other two being the accreditation bodies of Hong Kong and Mexico).



INTERNATIONAL

Malaysia's first king to abdicate the throne

- ❖ Malaysia's monarch Sultan Muhammad V resigned, as the 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong, from the throne before completing their five-year tenure for the 1st time in Malaysia's history.
- ❖ Under the Malaysia's rotational monarchy system, a king is typically elected for five years from each of the nine Malay royal houses.
- ❖ The selection of the next king can be decided by a vote in the Council of Rulers, made up of all 9 royal households.



World Bank President announces resignation

- ❖ The World Bank President Jim Yong Kim announced that he would step down by 1 February, three and a half years before the expiry of his term in 2022.
- ❖ The Former President Barack Obama appointed Kim as the bank's president in 2012.
- ❖ He was reappointed by the bank's board for a second five-year term in 2017.
- ❖ Under Kim's leadership, the bank set the goal of eliminating extreme poverty by 2030.



- ❖ The World Bank CEO Kristalina Georgieva will serve as interim president upon Kim's February 1 departure.

ECONOMY

GST panel approves 'calamity cess' by Kerala

- ❖ The Group of States' Finance Ministers (GoFM) led by the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar, Sushil Kumar Modi approved levy of 1% 'calamity cess' by Kerala.
- ❖ The calamity cess will be for a period of 2 years to fund rehabilitation work in the state of Kerala.
- ❖ The GST law provides for levy of special taxes for a specified period to raise additional resources during any natural calamity or disaster.

ENVIRONMENT

AAI banned single-use plastic items

- ❖ The Airport Authority of India (AAI) has recently banned single-use plastic items at 16 airports.
- ❖ The 16 airports declared as single-use plastic free are Indore, Bhopal, Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Tirupati, Trichy, Vijayawada, Dehradun, Chandigarh, Vadodara, Madurai, Raipur, Vizag, Pune, Kolkata and Varanasi.

SPORTS

Brisbane International 2019

- ❖ The 11th edition of the Brisbane International 2019 took place as part of the Australian Open Series at Queensland, Australia.
- ❖ K. Nishikori (Japan) won the Men's Singles event by defeating D. Medvedev (Russia).
- ❖ K. Pliskova (Czech Republic) won the Women's Singles by defeating L. Tsurenko (Ukraine).



AFC Asian Cup 2019

- ❖ The Indian national team scripted history at the Al Nahyan Stadium, Abu Dhabi as they registered a 4-1 win over Thailand.
- ❖ It is the India's biggest win in the Asian Cup history.



- ❖ India's last win in the Asian Cup came against Hong Kong which was by a 3-1 margin back in 1964 at Israel, which was incidentally their biggest win.
- ❖ Chhetri's brace not only made him India's top-scorer at the Asian Cup but also the second-highest active goal scorer in the world, behind Cristiano Ronaldo.



India's First-Ever Test Series Win in Australia

- ❖ The Indian cricket team has recently won their first ever Test series in Australia after a 71-year wait by a margin of 2-1 and retained the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.
- ❖ India Became the first ever Asian team and 5th overall to win a Test series in Australia.
- ❖ Virat Kohli became the first Asian captain to win a Test series in Australia.
- ❖ India have toured Australia since 1947 but never before managed to win a series in the country.



- ❖ India which enforced the follow-on during the 4th test at Sydney, was the first time since 1988 that Australia was asked to follow on at their home.
- ❖ The winning of the 3rd test of the series was India's 150th in Test cricket.
- ❖ The 150th win made India the 5th team after Australia (384), England (364), West Indies (171) and South Africa (162) to reach the milestone.
- ❖ Cheteshwar Pujara was adjudged the player of the series.
- ❖ Pujara has set the record for facing the greatest number of balls (1,258) faced by an Indian batsman in a Test series in Australia overtaking former India captain Rahul Dravid (1,203).
- ❖ Rishabh Pant became the only Indian wicketkeeper to score a hundred in Australia and only the fourth Indian wicketkeeper to score over 150 in Tests.
