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FEBRUARY – 2019

TAMIL NADU

- 1) Tamil Nadu Becomes 1st State in India to Get **2 Coast Guard Districts** (Tuticorin & Chennai)
- 2) **Digicop App: Chennai Police and Actor Vijay Sethupathi** jointly launched the mobile app “Digicop” through this app people can track the stolen two wheelers and mobile phones also know the nearest police station and traffic alerts.
- 3) **No-caste-No-religion Certificate: Snegha Parthibaraja**, a lawyer from Vellore becomes the 1st Indian to obtain ‘No-caste-No-religion’ certificate
- 4) Tamil Nadu Government released a new **“Tamil Nadu Solar Energy Policy 2019”** on 4th February 2019
- 5) Tamil Nadu government planned to started “Amma Ambulance” soon ***for the maintenance of livestock***
- 6) State Cooperative Aavin milk is now available in Qatar
- 7) Aavin launched **full cream milk (200 ml) at a price of Rs 10** in Tirunelveli and Tuticorin districts
- 8) **Pallavan Grama Bank and Pandyan Grama Bank will be merged to form the Tamil Nadu Grama Bank** under the sponsorship of Indian Bank.
- 9) Chennai Metro Rail line between **Washermenpet to AG-DMS** started to function on **10th February 2019**
- 10) UK-based **‘Laureti Automotive Corporation’** has proposed to set up in Puducherry
- 11) **Robo Boat:** Chennai based National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) developed Robo boat to study about oceans
- 12) Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami announced to open the **‘Integrated livestock park’** in **Salem district**
- 13) **Bandicoot:** A Drainage-Cleaning Robot Introduced In Chennai

- 14) Tamil Nadu government has passed a bill to promote '**Contract farming**' on 14th February 2019

NATIONAL

1) **PULWAMA ATTACK:**

- ✓ On 14th February 2019 countries one of the worst attacks on security personnel (CRPF) took place at Awantipora in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district.
- ✓ The National Highway NH1 that connects Srinagar and Jammu passes through Pulwama.
- ✓ 44 CRPF Jawans were killed by an attack purported by Jaish-e-Mohammed
- ✓ Pulwama is nicknamed as the rice bowl of Kashmir

- 2) **Southern Coast Railway Zone:** The Union government has announced the creation of new railway zone for Andhra Pradesh, Southern Coast Railway Zone to be **headquartered in Visakhapatnam**

- 3) India has set the target to eliminate Tuberculosis in India by 2025.

- 4) The Union government renamed Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) as **the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade**

- 5) **Smart Village Campaign:** The Punjab government approved a rural development scheme "Smart Village Campaign" to build village infrastructure and provide essential amenities.

- 6) President opened "Rashtrapati Bhavan" for public to celebrate the annual "**Udyanotsav**"

- 7) CJI Ranjan Gogoi opened the newly built **High Court for Andhra Pradesh** in Nelapadu, Andhra Pradesh.

- 8) **Kisan Credit Card:** The union govt to launch a campaign to saturate farmers for financial inclusion under KCC

- 9) **Kerala** becomes the 1st state to set up **price monitoring and research unit** to track violation of prices of essential drugs and medical devices under the Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO)
- 10) **KP-BOT:** Kerala police inducted 1st ever robot Humanoid Police Robot in the force.
- 11) **Zero Fatality Corridor:** Delhi Government has launched Zero Fatality Corridor **aims to curb the number of accidents.**
- 12) Textile Minister **Smriti Irani** has launched the **India Size project** (first-of-its-kind project in the history of the country) in Mumbai.
- 13) **Great Indian Bustard** announced as the Mascot for Conference Of Parties (COP-13)
- 14) **Himalayan Cloud Observatory** has been set up in **Tehri district, Uttarakhand**
- 15) Railways Minister Piyush goyal launched IEA's **"The Future of Rail"** Report
- 16) **Shehri Samridhi Utsav:** An initiative of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) aims to extend the outreach of Deendayal Antyodaya Mission – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)
- 17) **'Darwaza Band- Part 2' campaign** launched by Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen focuses on sustaining the open defecation free status of villages across the country.
- 18) The State Government of Jammu and Kashmir issued a notification of creation of **Ladakh as 3rd Administrative Division in the state.**
- 19) The Ministry of Environment launched a **three-year Asiatic Lion Conservation Project** in collaboration with the state of **Gujarat.**
- 20) PM Modi launches channel **"DD Arunprabha"** for Arunachal Pradesh
- 21) The Meghalaya Cabinet has decided to rename the **Dikkibandi stadium** in Tura town after former Lok Sabha **Speaker Purno A Sangma.**
- 22) India's 1st Aqua Mega Food Park Commissioned in **Andhra Pradesh**

- 23) India's 1st District cooling system will come up in **Amravati, Andhra Pradesh**
- 24) **India's 1st Geographical Indication (GI) store** was inaugurated at **Goa International Airport in Dabolim.**
- 25) **Helpline number 112:** Rajnath Singh has launched single emergency helpline number 112 in 16 States and UT including Tamil Nadu.
- 26) **Ghumot** to be declared **Goa's heritage musical instrument**
- 27) The President of India Ram Nath Kovind has unveiled the life size portrait of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on 12th February 2019.
- 28) **Sarathi Sandesh Vahini vehicles** were flagged off by **Uttar Pradesh** Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath *to spread awareness regarding family planning in urban and rural areas*
- 29) **ASCEND 2019** is an ambitious initiative of the **Kerala government to position the state as an investment hotspot.**
- 30) PM Narendra Modi laid Foundation Stone for the **Sela Tunnel Project in Arunachal Pradesh across Sela Pass**
- 31) **SWAYATT:** Initiative to promote Start-ups, Women and Youth Advantage of using e-Transactions on Government e Marketplace (GeM).
- 32) Telangana government has announced to create 2 more districts **Narayanpet and Mulugu.** Currently there are 33 districts
- 33) **Sanskrit as 2nd official language: Himachal Assembly** passed the Bill to make Sanskrit the 2nd official language. 1st – Hindi
- 34) **Viral Hepatitis:** Maharashtra government launched a national programme to eliminate viral hepatitis.
- 35) India's 1st **Agromet Forecast Centre** Inaugurated In Karnataka
- 36) India's 1st **Full dome 3D Digital Theatre** Inaugurated In Kolkata
- 37) **SHREYAS Programme:** The Union Minister of Human Resources and Development launched the Scheme for Higher Education Youth in

Apprenticeship and Skills (SHREYAS) programme to provide industry-specific apprenticeship opportunities to fresh graduates

INTERNATIONAL

- 1) **State Bank of India's Uk chief Mr. Sanjiv Chadha** has been honored with the '**Freedom of the City Of London**' by the city of London Corporation in recognition of his contribution to promoting the bilateral relations.
- 2) **Xin Xiaomeng**: Chinese news agency Xinhua unveiled the world's first female AI news anchor Xin Xiaomeng.
- 3) The US president Donald Trump on 15th February 2019 had declared a national emergency to fund the US-Mexico border without congressional approval
- 4) **Thailand** named **Siamese Fighting Fish its National Aquatic Animal**.
- 5) **Dubai airport** retains the 1st position as "**World's Busiest Airport**"
- 6) **Macedonia** Officially Changed its Name to **North Macedonia**
- 7) **Sultan Abdullah** sworn in as new **Malaysian King**.
- 8) **Muhammadu Buhari** re-elected as Nigerian President
- 9) **UAE** to build church, mosque named after Saint Francis and Grand Imam in Abu Dhabi
- 10) **Indus River dolphin** declared as **state aquatic animal of Punjab**
- 11) **Abu Dhabi** declaring Hindi as the **Third official language** in courts after Arabic and English.
- 12) India withdraws most favoured nation status to Pakistan.
- 13) India And Germany Join Hands On Water And Waste Management.
- 14) 5th India-Bangladesh Joint Consultative Committee Meet Held in New Delhi
- 15) India and Norway Launched Initiative To Combat Marine Pollution
- 16) Saudi Becomes the 73rd Nation To Sign International Solar Alliance

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

SUMMITS / CONFERENCES	PURPOSE / THEME / OUTCOME	PLACE	DATE
ICT Academy Bridge 2019	Theme: "Fostering India for Industry 4.0"	Tamil Nadu	5 th February 2019
PETROTECH-2019	International Oil and Gas Conference	Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh	10 th February 2019
National Conference on Unani Medicine	On this occasion, AYUSH Awards for Unani Medicine were conferred	New Delhi	13 th February 2019
2nd Edition of Asia LPG Summit 2019	Theme: "LPG – Energy for Life"	New Delhi	5 th - 6 th February 2019
Parmanu Tech 2019 - Nuclear Energy Conference	The main motive of this conference is to showcase India's capabilities in Nuclear Energy with environmental responsibility	New Delhi	7 th February 2019
1st LAWASIA Human Rights Conference 2019	Theme: "State Power, Business and Human Rights: Contemporary Challenges"	New Delhi	9 th - 10 th February 2019
5th International Dam Safety Conference		Bhubaneswar, Odisha	13 th - 14 th February 2019
7th World Government Summit	The main objective of the summit is to shape the future generation of governments	Dubai, UAE	12 th February 2019
World Sustainable Development Summit 2019	Theme: "Attaining the 2030 Agenda: Delivering on Our Promise"	New Delhi	11 th - 13 th February 2019
4th India-ASEAN Expo and Summit, 2019		New Delhi	21 st – 23 rd February 2019
8th World CSR Congress 2019	Theme: Sustainable Development Goals 2019; (SDGs) to focus on corporate strategies, innovation, and strategic alliances.	Mumbai, Maharashtra	17 th - 18 th February 2019
Rising India Summit 2019	Theme: "Beyond Politics: Defining National Priorities"	New Delhi	22 nd February 2019
4th Agri Leadership Summit 2019	Theme: "Entrepreneurship & Agri-Business; Agri Allied – A Promising Sector and Agri Service- Direct Marketing"	Sonapat, Haryana	15 th - 17 th February 2019

SCHEMES / YOJANAS

SCHEMES / YOJANAS	PURPOSE / Why in News?	MINISTRY / CABINET	DATE
Mukhyamantri Vridhajan Pension Yojna	Universal old age pension scheme	Bihar government	14 th February 2019
Mukhyamantri Yuva Swabhiman Yojana	For urban youths (21-30 years) from economically weaker sections	Madhya Pradesh government	25 th February 2019
Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan pension scheme	Under the scheme, workers of the unorganised sector will receive a minimum assured pension of three thousand rupees per month after attaining the age of 60 years	Union government	15 th February 2019
Arundhati Scheme	Provide gold at free of cost to the brides	Assam government	7 th February 2019
KALIA Chhatra Bruti Yojana	Children of farmers will be provided scholarships to pursue higher education in professional courses at free of cost	Odisha government	4 th February 2019
Annadata Sukhibhava scheme	For Farmers	Andhra Pradesh government	19 th February 2019

INDICES

INDEX	PURPOSE / RELEASED BY	INDIA's RANKING	TOP RANKING
International IP index 2019	Global Innovation Policy Center (GIPC)	44	USA
Inclusive Internet Index 2019		47	Sweden

WOMEN IN NEWS

Hina Jaiswal	First Woman Flight Engineer of Indian Air Force
Bhavana Kasturi	1 st Woman officer to lead an all men Army contingent in the Republic Day parade
Suman Kumari	1 st Hindu Woman in Pakistan to be appointed as a civil judge
Mithali Raj	1 st Indian woman to play 200 ODI Cricket Matches

MILITARY EXERCISES IN FEBRUARY 2019

EXERCISE NAME	HELD BETWEEN	TYPE OF EXERCISE	PLACE	DATE
Aman 19	46 countries	Multinational Maritime Exercise	Karachi, Pakistan	10 th February 2019
Exercise Topchi 2019		Indian Army Annual Exercise	Nashik, Maharashtra	15 th February 2019
Cutclass Express 2019		Multinational Naval Exercise	Vicinity of Djibouti, Mozambique and Seychelles.	27 th January – 6 th February 2019
Exercise Rahat		Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise	Rajasthan	11 th - 12 th February 2019
Vayu Shakti		Indian air force	Pokhran, Rajasthan	18 th February 2019
Sampriti 2019	India and Bangladesh		Tangail, Bangladesh	March 2019 (upcoming)

ROCKETS LAUNCHED IN FEBRUARY 2019

SATELLITES	COUNTRY	LAUNCH VEHICLE	PURPOSE	LAUNCH DATE
GSAT-31 (India's 40th communication)	India	Ariane-5 VA-247	Augment the Ku-band transponder capacity in Geostationary Orbit	6 th February 2019

DEFENCE & SPACE

- 1) ISRO Sets Up the Human Space Flight Centre for **Gaganyaan Mission in Bengaluru**
- 2) ISRO has launched a special programme for School Children called "Young Scientist Programme" **"YUva Vigyani KARYakram"**
- 3) India has successfully undertaken the demonstration of the **indigenously developed propulsion technology (Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet technology)**
- 4) **NASA's** 1st Mini – Spacecraft named **"MarCO CubeSats"** has lost touch in atmosphere.

- 5) **Beresheet: Israel is to launch its first moon mission**, sending an unmanned spacecraft to collect data to be shared with NASA.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- 1) **iAPS:** Scientists have developed an artificial pancreas Smartphone app “iAPS” for regulating the blood sugar levels in diabetes patients.
- 2) AYUSH Minister launches **e-AUSHADHI Portal:** for online licensing of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs
- 3) **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) App** has Launched
- 4) Year 2018 was the fourth warmest year on record after 2015, 2016, 2017
- 5) **LADIS:** The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) launched a new portal LADIS – Least Available Depth to aid in ensuring of optimum use of National Waterways
- 6) PM Modi Flagged Off World’s 1st Ever **Diesel To Electric Conversion Locomotive** in Varanasi
- 7) Australian Small Brown Rat Becomes **World’s First Mammal** To Go Extinct Due To Climate Change

ECONOMICS

- 1) **Union Interim Budget 2019-20:**
 - ✓ **Started on: 31st January 2019** – President Presented Joint sitting of the Houses
 - ✓ **Presented on: 1st February 2019**
 - ✓ **Presented by:** Union Minister for Finance, Corporate Affairs, Railways & Coal, Mr. Piyush Goyal
 - ✓ **Concluded on: 13th February 2019**

New Schemes Introduced in the Budget:

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme	Assistance to the small and marginal farmers with an assured supplemental income
Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Mandhan	Provide unorganized sector workers a comprehensive social security coverage for their old age
Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog	Enhance production and productivity of cows

- 2) **India's tourism** sector registers **19% growth in 2018**.
- 3) **The Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2018-19:** issued from 4th February – 8th February 2019 in India
- 4) **RBI cuts repo rate by 25 basis points to 6.25% in bi-monthly policy review of 2018 – 19:**

Repo Rate	6.25%
Reverse Repo Rate	6.0 %
Marginal Standing Facility Rate	6.50%
Bank Rate	6.50%

- 5) **Kisan Suvidha loan** for small and marginal farmers has been launched by Ujjivan Small Finance Bank.

AWARDS

AWARDS / PRIZES	PERSON / ORGANIZATION
France highest Legion of Honor	Francois Laborde
Lifetime Achievement Award from Canadian Academy	Deepa Mehta
Israel's Dan David Prize 2019	Indian Historian Sanjay Subrahmanyam
Swachhata Excellence awards 2019	Raigarh of Chhattisgarh – 1 st Place
	Ambikapur of Chhattisgarh – 2 nd Place
	Kumbakonam of Tamil Nadu – 3 rd Place
International Human Rights Prize	Abdul Aziz Muhamat
Tagore Award	2014 - Rajkumar Singhajit Singh
	2015 - Chhayanaaut
	2016 - Ram Vanji Sutar

91st ACADEMY AWARDS (OSCAR AWARDS)

BEST PICTURE	Green Book
ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE	Rami Malek, Bohemian Rhapsody
ACTRESS IN A LEADING ROLE	Olivia Colman
COSTUME DESIGN	Black Panther, Ruth Carter
FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM	Roma Mexico; Alfonso Cuar
ANIMATED FEATURE FILM	Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse

APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS

PERSONS	POSITION / DESIGNATION
Rishi Kumar Shukla	CBI Director
Sushil Chandra	New Election Commissioner
Lt. General Rajeev Chopra	Director General of NCC
Suman Kumari	Pakistan's 1 st Hindu Woman Judge
P V Bharathi	CEO of Corporation Bank
Egypt President El-Sissi	Elected as chairman of the African Union
Pramod Chandra Mody	Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes
Pradeep Singh Kharola	Civil Aviation Secretary
Ashwani Lohani	Chairman and managing director of Air India
Sanjiv Ranjan	Ambassador of India To The Republic Of Colombia
Dinesh Bhatia	Ambassador of India To The Republic Of Argentina
D.K. Jain	BCCI Ombudsman

SPORTS

- 1) **Smriti Mandhana** reached the No.1 spot in Women's ODI Batting Ranking. (also ICC Women Player of the Year 2018)
- 2) Indian opener Smriti Mandhana scored the fastest fifty for India in Women's T20Is just 24 balls
- 3) **Qatar** wins Asian Football Champions 2019 against Japan in Abu Dhabi
- 4) **Vani Kapoor** has become the 1st Indian golfer to receive the **Australian Women's PGA Tour card**.
- 5) **Sunil Chhetri** (Captain Fantastic) has given 1st ever Football Ratna Award
- 6) **Vidarbha** grab second successive Ranji Trophy Title 2018 against Saurashtra in Nagpur.
- 7) **Mirabai Chanu** notched up gold at EGAT Cup in Thailand
- 8) **Rohit Sharma** becomes highest run-scorer in T20 cricket
- 9) **Ramit Tandon** wins Seattle Squash Open

- 10) **Ricky Ponting** named Australia assistant coach for World Cup 2019 campaign
- 11) Former Australian Spinner Shane Warne named **brand ambassador of Rajasthan Royals in IPL**
- 12) **Clouded Leopard** to be the Mascot for National Games 2022
- 13) **INS Dronacharya** Wins Kochi Area Boat Pulling Regatta 2019
- 14) **Haryana Hammers** won the 4th edition of the Pro Wrestling League (PWL) by defeating Punjab

FESTIVALS

- 1) **33rd Surajkund** International Crafts Mela Held at Faridabad, Haryana.
- 2) **Kala Ghoda Arts Festival:** India's largest multi – cultural street festival “Kala Ghoda Arts Festival” held at **Mumbai**.
- 3) **Boori Boot Yollo Festival:** Nyishi tribe from **Arunachal Pradesh** celebrated Boori Boot Yollo festival.
- 4) **Challachitram National Film Festival** will be held at **Guwahati** in March 2019
- 5) **40th International Annual Desert Festival** held at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

BOOKS	AUTHORS
Let's Talk On Air: Conversations with Radio Presenters	Rakesh Anand Bakshi
Undaunted: Saving the Idea of India	P Chidambaram (former Finance Minister)
What Marx Left Unsaid	Dr. Malay Chaudhari, Dr. Arindam Chaudhari and Che Kabir Chaudhari
“Law, Justice and Judicial Power – Justice P N Bhagwati's Approach”	Mool Chand Sharma
Selected Speeches: Volume-1	Venkaiah Naidu
Simplicity & Wisdom	Dinesh Shahra

IMPORTANT DAYS

DAYS	EVENTS	THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE
February 2	8 th Annual Pulicat day	Create an awareness among people to protect the Lagoons
	World Wetland day	Theme: "Wetlands and Climate change"
February 4	World Cancer day	Theme: "I Am and I will"
	71 st Independence day of Srilanka	Chief guest: Ibrahim Mhd Solih – Maldives President
February 6	International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation	Recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women
February 8	National Deworming day	
February 10	World Pulses day	
February 11	International Day Of Women And Girls In Science	Theme: "Investment in Women and Girls in Science for Inclusive Green Growth"
	Unani day 2019	
February 12	National Productivity Day	Theme: "Circular Economy for Productivity & Sustainability"
February 13	World Radio day	Theme: "Dialogue, Tolerance and Peace"
February 20	World Day of Social Justice	Theme: "If You Want Peace & Development, Work for Social Justice"
February 21	International Mother Language Day	Theme: "Indigenous Languages as a factor in development, peace and reconciliation"
February 28	National Science Day	Theme: "Science for the People and the People for Science"

- **National Productivity Council is celebrating National Productivity week from February 12th to 18th, 2019. THEME: "Circular Economy for Productivity & Sustainability"**
- **India is celebrating the 30th Road Safety Week from 04th February (Monday) to the 10th February (Sunday)**