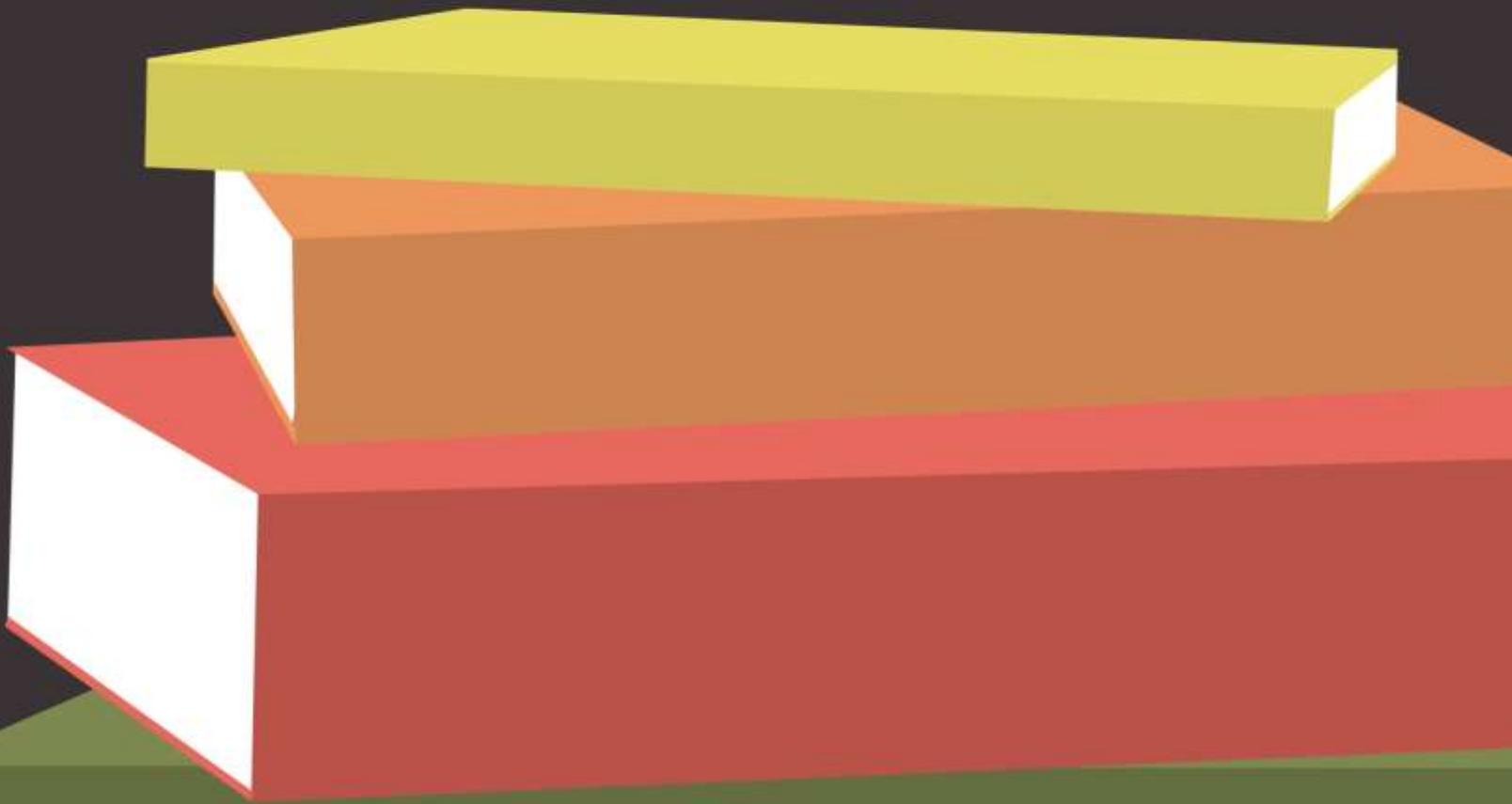


Monthly One- Liner GK Digest January 2020



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MONTHLY ONE-LINER GK DIGEST: JANUARY 2020

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

95th Hastings International Chess Title

- **India's P Magesh Chandran** lifted the title in the **95th edition** of the prestigious Hastings International Chess Congress.
- The 95th Hastings International Chess Congress was held at **Hastings in England**.

Dhaka International Film Festival

- **The Rainbow Film Festival** organises the Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF) since **1992** with support from Bangladesh government and many other organizations including the **High Commission of India, Dhaka**.
- The **theme** of DIFF 2020 was '**better film, better audience, better society**'.

Mahatma Gandhi International Convention Centre

- The convention centre is established by India to honour the **memory of Mahatma Gandhi** and also represents India's firm commitment towards Africa.
- The convention centre is designed as a **2,000 capacity Plenary Hall, to witness high-level and wide-ranging participation from African Union member states** and other high-level conventions.

NATIONAL NEWS

Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System

- The Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System is launched to enable **applicants to track the status of the applications on a real time basis.**
- Under the tracking system, the applicants, applying for the party registration will be able to **track the progress of applications** and will get the status through **SMS and e-mail.**

'Visit Nepal Year 2020' Campaign

- The ambitious campaign is aimed to **promote tourism in Nepal and attract 2 million tourists during the year 2020.**
- **Nepal's Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Yogesh Bhattarai** said the government has a goal of making tourism one of the key pillars of Nepali economy.

India to Restrict Non-Essential items Import from China

- India import **around Rs 4 Trillion worth non-essential goods from China**, as per the Commerce Ministry estimate.
- A total of 371 items will be restricted from **March 2020** which includes toys, plastic goods, Sport items, furniture especially from China.

World's 2nd Tallest Statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

- The bronze statue is **50 feet tall** with the weight of **70 thousand kilograms** and is unveiled at the **Sardardham campus near Vaishnodevi circle in Ahmedabad.**
- After **the Statue of Unity (SoU)** of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, situated at Kevadiya in Narmada district of Central Gujarat, It has become the second-highest statue of India's first home minister.

Antarrastriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman

- Assessment for Prize was done by a jury consisting 6 members and headed by **Justice C.K. Prasad, Press Council of India.**
- The Prize will compromise a **citation, Plaque and a special trophy.**

Centre released Rs 5,908 crore to 7 States

- The amount is given by the **National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)**.
- The Central Government has so far released **8,068 crore rupees to 27 states in the current financial year**, as Central share from State Disaster Response Fund.

Govt approved VGF of Rs 5,559 crore Gas Pipeline Project

- The North East Gas Grid project is being implemented by **Indradhanush Gas Grid Ltd which is a joint venture company of 5 CPSEs (NRL, OIL, ONGC, IOCL and GAIL)**.
- The sanctioned VGF amount will cover **60% of the total cost of the project that is Rs 9256 crore**.

SC Observation on Internet

- The SC on 10th January 2020 asked the Jammu and Kashmir administration to review within a week **all orders imposing restrictions in the Union Territory**.
- The three judge bench was **headed by Justice N V Ramana** and comprised justices B R Gavai and R Subhash Reddy.

National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal

- The **National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (www.cybercrime.gov.in)** is a citizen-centric initiative that will enable citizens to report cyber-crimes online through the portal.
- Under this, the concerned law enforcement agencies will access the related cyber-crime complaints in the **States and Union Territories**.

Industrial Production in November 2019

- The growth in the manufacturing sector was **2.7 % as against a contraction of 0.7% in November 2018**.
- The **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** had grown by 0.2% in November 2018.

Mission Purvodaya

- As per the government's data, the eastern belt has the potential to add **over 75 % of the country's incremental steel capacity** envisioned by the National Steel Policy.
- The eastern states of India (**Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal**) and **Northern part of Andhra Pradesh** collectively hold **80 per cent of the country's iron ore, 100 per cent of coking coal**.

National Youth Festival 2020

- The NYF is organised with an **objective** to provide a platform to the youth of the country and provide them with an opportunity to showcase their talents in various activities.
- It is organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India in collaboration with **one of the State Governments annually**.

National Highway Excellence Awards 2019

- The award **aims** to recognise best performing companies at various stages of highway development like construction, operations, maintenance, road safety and tolling.
- The award is instituted to create a spirit of **healthy competitiveness amongst all stakeholders** involved in the development of highway infrastructure in the country.

Country's First Cyber Crime Prevention Unit Launched

- **AASHVAST** to pay E Challan online and provide Cyber Crime Prevention which will have a dedicated service helpline for victims of cyber crimes.
- Six different **postal memory cards** were released by the Minister depicting various folk dances of Gujarat.

Retail Inflation in December

- The data showed that the spike in **inflation in the vegetable segment was 60.5%** during the month compared to December 2018.
- The **overall food inflation rose to 14.12 % on December 19** as against (-) 2.65 % on December 18.

E-com Platform Launched for Real Estate Sector

- The online platform is for projects that have received **occupancy certificates (OCs)** and is expected to create a safe and transparent home-buying experience for home buyers.
- Buyers will be able to **view complete listing info** including floor plans, room dimensions, video tours of units and external views looking out from windows / balconies.

Fuel Conservation Mega Campaign: Saksham

- As per the recent data, India's share of primary energy demand is set to **double to 11% by 2040**.
- The one-month long annual event "Saksham" **aims at creating mass awareness** among public about conventional fuel conservation.

Z Morh Tunnel

- The project includes construction, operation and maintenance of the tunnel with approaches on **NH-1 at Srinagar-Sonmarg-Gumri Road**.
- The tunnel remains closed during the winters due to heavy snowfall in **Gagenger area**.

Pulse Polio Programme for 2020

- **Pulse Polio is an immunisation campaign** which was established by the government of India to eliminate **poliomyelitis or infantile paralysis** caused by the **poliovirus**.
- The disease leads to **muscle weakness and inability to move** among people and **spreads easily from person to person**.

Mission Organic Development Initiative (MODI)

- The week-long tour of **25 progressive farmers** is done under **Mission Organic Development Initiative (MODI) programme**.
- Under the programme, the entire Leh district of the Union Territory is targeted to **achieve Organic farming by 2025**.

ICP Biratnagar

- **Jobgani-Biratnagar** international trade point is one of the important trade points between India and Nepal that share over 1,850 kilometre- long border with each other.
- Biratnagar is also the **third-largest Revenue Collecting Customs Office** of Nepal.

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar

- The **President of India, Ram Nath Kovind**, presented the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2019 on 22nd January 2019 at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- **Individuals and Institutions** are also conferred with the awards for child welfare.

Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2020

- The **Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar** is given to recognise the excellent work done by individuals and institutions in India in the **field of disaster management**.
- Government of India announces the **award every year on 23rd January on the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose**.

India's First Underwater Metro

- The underground Metro Project is known as the **East-West Metro project**, which is being constructed below the **Hoogly River**.
- The underwater metro twin tunnel will **connect Howrah and Mahakaran Stations**.

India's 10 More Wetlands got the Ramsar Site Tag

- Wetlands declared as Ramsar sites are **protected under strict guidelines of the convention**.
- With this recognition, the **numbers of Ramsar sites in India are now 37** and the surface area covered by these sites is now **1,067,939 hectares**.

India's First Governmental Waste to Energy Plant

- The Waste to Energy Plant has a **capacity of 500 Kg of waste per day** and has been constructed in three months.
- It is a **patented technology called POLYCRACK**, with the heterogeneous catalytic process which converts multiple feedstocks into **hydrocarbon liquid fuels, gas, carbon and water**.

WHO Declared Coronavirus as PHEIC

- The decision was taken in the **second consecutive meeting of the Emergency Committee**.

- The committee was convened by the **WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus** under the **International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005)**.

BANKING

December GST Revenue Collection

- The impressive **growth of 16% is observed in the GST revenues** during the month of December, 2019 from domestic transactions, as compared to the Dec 18 collection.
- The government has settled **Rs 21,814crore to CGST and Rs 15,366crore to SGST** from IGST as regular settlement.

RBI has Launched a Mobile App, MANI

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a mobile app named **Mobile Aided Note Identifier (MANI) to help visually challenged people** to identify denomination of currency notes.
- The RBI launched the mobile app considering the reports of problems faced by visually-challenged people in identifying these **new currency notes due to the significant changes in the sizes and designs after the demonetization in November 2016**.

SBI and NPCI recommendations on Rupay Card

- The worry of SBI and other state-run banks who are the main issuers of the RuPay card is that the government decision to scrap the processing charge on transactions with the card **would cause them a revenue loss**.
- NPCI is concerned that the **action would disincentivise banks to issue RuPay cards** and they would instead **prefer international rivals of the home-grown payment gateway**.

UCO Bank Debt Resolution under NCLT

- The recovery would help the bank to reduce its net losses as the bank had reported **net losses for the last 16 quarters**.
- Due to **high bad loan ratios and negative return on assets**, the UCO bank is still being under Reserve Bank of India's **prompt corrective action**.

Govt infused Rs 4,360 crore to IOB

- The bank has received the amount as **contribution of the government in preferential allotment of equity shares during the financial year 2019-20** as government's investment.
- The Finance Ministry had announced capital infusion of Rs 3,800 crore on August 2019, which was later increased by **Rs 5600 crore**.

RBI New Norms for UCBS

- The RBI will continue to **monitor asset quality, profitability and capital/net worth of UCBS under the revised SAF**.
- Depending upon the stress severity, the RBI may ask them to **curtail their lending powers, among other safeguards**.

IBBI (Liquidation Process) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020

- The amendment is done in the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2016**.
- The amendment clarifies that a person, who is not eligible under the Code to submit a resolution plan for insolvency resolution of the corporate debtor, shall not be a party in any manner to a compromise or arrangement of the corporate debtor under **section 230 of the Companies Act, 2013**.

SBI announced RBBG Scheme

- The 'residential builder finance with buyer guarantee' (RBBG) scheme aims at giving a push to **residential sales and improve homebuyers' confidence**.
- Under the scheme, the SBI will issue a **guarantee for completion of select residential projects** to customers who have availed **home loans from it**.

RBI amended the KYC Norms

- The RBI has amended the KYC norms to use **Video based Customer Identification Process (V-CIP)**.
- Under the new norm, banks and other lending institutions regulated by RBI are allowed to use a **Video based Customer Identification Process (V-CIP)**.

RBI Issued New Rules for Debit and Credit Card

- Customers will have to **separately set up services on their card** for international transactions, online transactions, card-not-present transactions and contactless transactions.
- The new rules will be applicable for **new cards issued by the banks from 16th March 2020**.

IBBI amended Voluntary Liquidation Process Regulations

- IBBI notified the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Voluntary Liquidation Process) (Amendment) Regulations, **2020** on 15th January, 2020.
- It also provides a process for a stakeholder to **seek withdrawal from the Corporate Voluntary Liquidation Account**.

Finance Ministry allows Filing GSTR-3B Returns in a Staggered Manner

- The decision is taken towards easing the process as presently, **the last date of filing GSTR-3B returns for every taxpayer is 20th of every month**.
- After the change, now the last date for filing of GSTR-3B for the taxpayers having **annual turnover of Rs 5 crore and above in the previous financial year** would be **20th of every month without late fees**.

SEBI's Draft Norms for Social Stock Exchange

- A high powered panel on **Social Stock Exchanges (SSE)** incorporated by the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has prepared draft norms for the **Social Stock Exchange**.
- The SSE committee is **chaired by Ishaat Hussain, Director, SBI Foundation**.

REPORTS

IEA India Report 2020

- The IEA report praised the **draft National Energy Policy by NITI Aayog** and said to adopt and implement across central and state governments.
- India spent **\$25 billion in 2018 on subsidies for the consumption of fossil fuels**, mostly supporting oil consumption in the form of LPG (\$17 billion) and gas (\$4 billion).

INDEX AND RANKING

Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index

- Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index is released by the **World Economic Forum**.
- In the year 2019, India's rank in the Index has moved to **34th position from 65th rank in 2013**.

State Energy Efficiency Index 2019

- The State Energy Efficiency Index 2019 tracks the progress of Energy Efficiency Initiatives in **36 States and Union Territories** based on **97 significant indicators**.
- The index is developed by **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** in association with **Alliance for an Energy-Efficient Economy (AEEE)**.

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
Vinod Kumar Yadav	Chairman of Railway Board
Air Marshal Vibhas Pande VSM	Air Officer-in-Charge Maintenance (AOM) of Indian Air Force
Former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton	New Chancellor of Queen's University in Belfast, Ireland
Ravindra Nath Mahto	Jharkhand Assembly Speaker
Michael Debabrata Patra	Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
Ramesh Joshi	Non-Executive Chairman of the company Vakrangee Limited
ED Janak Raj	Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) Reserve Bank of India
Lt Gen Satinder Kumar Saini	Vice Chief of the Army Staff
Arvind Krishna	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)
Resignation	
Sachin Bansal	Independent Director of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (USFC)

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Awardee	Award
Dr M S Swaminathan	'Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu National Award for Excellence'
Dr. Gutta Muniratnam	'Muppavarapu National Award for Social Service'
Jasprit Bumrah	Polly Umrigar Award
Rani Rampal	'World Games Athlete of the Year' Award

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
4 th January 2020	World Braille Day	To raise awareness of the importance of Braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and partially sighted people.
9 th January 2020	Pravasi Bhartiya Divas	To mark the contribution of the overseas Indian community in the development of India.
10 th January 2020	World Hindi Day	To promote the use of Hindi language abroad.
14 th January 2020	Fourth Armed Forces Veterans Day	To respect and recognise the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Armed Forces who retired on 14th Jan 1953.
15 th January 2020	72 nd Army Day	To commemorate the day when General KM Cariappa took over the command of Army and became the first Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army after Independence.
18 th January 2020	15 th Raising Day	To lay down the policies, plans and guidelines for disaster management.
24 th January 2020	National Girl Child Day	Theme: "Aware girl child-able Madhya Pradesh"
25 th January 2020	National Tourism Day	To raise awareness about the importance of tourism for the country's economy.
25 th January 2020	National Voters Day	Theme: 'Electoral Literacy for Stronger Democracy'.
26 th January 2020	Bharat Parv 2020	Theme: 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' and 'Celebrating 150 Years of Mahatma Gandhi'.

30th January 2020

Martyrs' Day

To honour the sacrifices made by the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi.

MOU'S SIGNED

MoU on Ak-203 Assault Rifles

- The faculty is being set up between **Rosoboron Exports and Kalashnikov on Russian side** with 49.5% equity while **Ordnance Factories Board on Indian side** with 50% shareholding.
- Army has appointed **Major General Sanjeev Senger as the chief Executive Officer** of Indo-Russia Rifles Private Limited to ensure timely delivery of weapons.

MoU signed Between SCR of Indian Railways and SBI

- The doorstep Banking will provide **direct pickup of earnings covering all 585 Railway stations over SCR Zone.**
- The direct pick up of cash from all the railway stations on SCR dispenses with the tedious and complex activity of movement of cash earnings through **"Cash Safes" by trains.**

Bru-Reang Refugees

- The agreement was signed with stakeholders from the **State of Tripura, Mizoram and members of the Bru community.**
- As per the agreement, over **30 thousand Bru refugees will be settled in Tripura.**

GOI signed \$88 Million Loan Agreement with World Bank

- The loan agreement has been signed for **the implementation of Assam Inland Water Transport Project** to help modernize Assam's passenger ferry sector that runs on its rivers including the mighty Brahmaputra.
- The loan of \$88 million from the **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has a final maturity of 14.5 years** including a grace period of five years.

GOI signed \$210 Million Loan with World Bank

- The **\$210 million loan agreement** has been made to support **smallholder farmers** in the Indian state of Maharashtra.
- The loan agreement was signed by **Sameer Kumar Khare**, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, and **Junaid Kamal Ahmad**, Country Director (India), World Bank.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

Civil Aviation Ministry announced Scheme for Registration of Drones

- The scheme is announced days after top **Iranian General Qasem Soleimani was killed in a US drone attack.**

- All persons in possession of drones are required to complete the process (of **online registration**) by **January 31, 2020**.

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

- The Centre is implementing PMFBY to provide **financial support to farmers** suffering crop loss or damage arising out of unforeseen events.
- The scheme provides **comprehensive insurance coverage against crop loss** on account of non-preventable natural risks, thus helping stabilise farmers' income.

APNA UREA - SonaUgle

- HURL is Joint Venture Company promoted by the three **Maha Ratna Companies - Coal India Limited, NTPC Limited and Indian Oil Corporation Limited**.
- The Government approved in **2016** the revival of three sick Urea plants located at **Gorakhpur, Sindri and Barauni**.

PRAGATI

- PRAGATI is the **ICT based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance** and Timely Implementation, involving Central and State governments.
- Prime Minister had launched the **PRAGATI is a multi-purpose and multi-modal governance platform on 25th March 2015**.

Mukhyamantri Krishak Durghatna Kalyan Yojana

- The Mukhyamantri Krishak Durghatna Kalyan Yojana will provide **financial assistance to the family of farmers who die or become handicapped while working in fields**.
- The government has also decided to implement Mukhyamantri Paryatan Samvardhan Yojana to **boost tourism in the state**.

SERVICE -a Scheme of SAIL

- The SERVICE scheme will promote and facilitate **philanthropist activities by the employees in a structured manner**.
- The Minister also launched a dedicated interactive **"SAIL SERVICE" portal** for implementation of this Scheme.

'Shiv Bhojan' Scheme

- The **'Shiv Bhojan' scheme** is aimed at providing a **meal to the poor for just Rs 10**.
- Under this, **thalis or lunch plates** would be available to people at **designated centres/ canteens** during a stipulated time in all the districts.

PM-KUSUM Scheme

- The Scheme has a substantial environmental impact in terms of **savings of CO2 emissions**.
- The Government has **targeted to install 175 Giga Watt renewable energy by 2022**.

DEFENCE

MILAN 2020

- MILAN 2020 is a **multilateral naval exercise** hosted by Indian Navy, aimed to enhance professional interaction between friendly foreign navies and learn from each other's strengths and best practices in the maritime domain.
- The Exercise will be held with the **theme 'Synergy Across the Seas'**.

Naval Version of LCA successfully Landed on INS Vikramaditya

- The Naval LCA is developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organization, DRDO**.
- With the landing, **India has entered into the club of selected nations having the capability to design a fighter jet which can land on an aircraft carrier**.

Exercise 'Sahyog-Kaijin'

- It is being witnessed by the **Director-General of Indian Coast Guard Krishnaswamy Natarajan** and Admiral Takahiro Okushima, Commandant, Japan Coast Guard.
- **The Exercise 'Sahyog-Kaijin' is aimed to** strengthen bilateral ties and mutual understanding between the two Coast Guards and enhance interoperability in communication and Search and Rescue procedures and sharing of best practices.

51st K9 Vajra-T Guns

- The gun weighs 50 tonnes and can fire **47-kilogram bombs at targets up to a distance of 43 kilometres**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated L&T's Armoured System Complex at Hazira in Surat to the nation in **January 2019**.

IAF Induced First Squadron of Sukhoi-30 MKI Aircraft

- The squadron will initially consist of **four to six Sukhoi Su-30MKI fighters** and is expected to reach its full complement of **18 aircraft by the end of 2020**.
- The newly reinstated **222-squadron, also known as the Tigersharks**, would serve as a lethal weapons platform capable of carrying both aerial and maritime roles in the Indian Ocean Region.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ISRO's Missions in 2020

- **Gaganyaan** is a fully autonomous spacecraft designed to carry a 3-member crew to orbit at 400 km altitude and safely return to the Earth after a mission duration of up to seven days.
- Also on 31st Dec, the **Union Minister Jitendra Singh** has said that **India will launch Chandrayaan-3 in 2020**.

DGCA's e-Governance Project

- **Secretary of Ministry of Civil Aviation, Pradeep Kharola** has launched the **Phase-1 services of the e-Governance project of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)**.
- The eDGCA project is being implemented with **TCS as a Service Provider and PWC as a Project Management Consultant**.

Indian Science Congress

- The ISC is a major focal point for **scientists, researchers and academicians** interested in various aspects of scientific discoveries and technologies and is to be attended by over 15,000 delegates including **Nobel laureates, scientists, academicians, students, farmers** among others.
- The five-day-long event aims to bring together **science fraternity across the world** to discuss scientific innovation and research.

Assam Zoo: 1st to Breed Endangered Hargila

- **The Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden and Aaranyak** have jointly attained the successful hatching of a pair of Greater Adjutant chicks (Hargila).
- The Endangered Greater Adjutant stork (*Leptoptilos dubius*) is one of the rarest species of Storks out of **twenty species of Storks in the world**.

New Wetland Conservation Rules

- A **wetland** is a land area that is saturated with water, either permanently or seasonally, and it takes on the characteristics of a **distinct ecosystem**.
- As per the new rule, each state and Union Territory will have to **set up an authority that will define strategies for conservation** of wetlands within their jurisdiction.

GSAT-30 Satellite

- The GSAT-30 is a **communication satellite of India** and will be launched onboard **Ariane-5 launch vehicle (VA 251)**.
- The satellite weighs 3357 kg and has a **mission life of more than 15 years**.

Novel Corona Virus (nCoV)

- The **out-brake of the virus** has reported 41 confirmed cases of novel Coronavirus (nCoV) including one death from **Wuhan, China** on 5th January 2020.
- According to the World Health Organisation (**WHO**), the preliminary investigations suggest a link to the **seafood market**.

K-4 Ballistic Missile

- The K-4 ballistic missile is a **3,500 kilometre range nuclear capable missile** that can be launched from a **submarine**.
- The missile was developed by **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**.

India Achieved Complete Phase Out of HCFC-141b

- The **HCFC-141b** is a chemical used by **foam manufacturing enterprises** and one of the most potent **ozone depleting chemical** after **Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)**.
- The MoEFCC **prohibited the issuance of import license for HCFC-141b** from 1st January, 2020 under **Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Amendment Rules, 2019**.

Vyom Mitra

- ISRO showcased the **lady robot (the prototype of the half-humanoid)** at the inaugural session of the "**Human Spaceflight and Exploration - Present Challenges and Future Trends**".
- The Robot will be send before astronauts on **India's first manned mission to space in December 2021**.

DRDO Anti-Satellite (A-SAT) Weapon System

- DRDO launched 'Mission Shakti', India's first anti-satellite technology A-SAT mission in March 2019 from the **Dr AP J Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha**.
- The system **destroyed a live orbiting satellite in the Low Earth Orbit (LEO)** in a "Hit to Kill" mode with **10-centimetre accuracy**.

Bhuvan Panchayat V3 Web Portal

- The **Bhuvan Panchayat V3 web Portal** is launched to **enhance network application of gram panchayats**.
- The Portal will function with the help of **satellite technology developed by ISRO**.

Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Bill, 2020

- The **Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has approved the **Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Bill, 2020** on 29th January 2020.
- The bill has the **objective** of expanding access of women to safe and legal abortion services on therapeutic, eugenic, humanitarian or social grounds.

SPORTS

5th IHAI National Ice Hockey Championship-2020

- The contest ended in a draw with 4 goals each in the inaugural match in **Under-20 Boys category** between Chandigarh and Haryana.
- Similarly, the second match between **Ladakh Scouts Regiment Centre and Delhi** also ended in a draw with 2 goals each.

Manav Thakkar became World no.1 in Latest ITTF Ranking

- Manav Thakkar has now become the **fourth Indian** to achieve the feat after **Harmeet Desai, G Sathiyam and Soumyajit Ghosh**.

- He was also part of the Indian men's team which won a **bronze medal in the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta.**

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

Second National GST Conference

- The meeting was held under the **chairmanship of Revenue Secretary Dr Ajay Bhushan Pandey.**
- The **1st National GST Conference** of Commissioners of State Tax and Chief Commissioners/Director Generals of Central Tax was held on **25th November 2019** under the chairmanship of the Union Revenue Secretary **Dr Ajay Bhushan Pandey, in New Delhi.**

Kochi to Host Global Investors Meet

- The ASCEND meet 2020 will also see organisers showcasing 70-odd other projects classified as **large, medium and small** in the descending order of their capital investment and capacity to provide jobs.
- **KINFRA (Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation)** is to set up Rs 400 crore logistics hub (in Palakkad) with warehousing facility.

World Future Energy Summit

- World Future Energy Summit in the **Middle East's largest future energy and sustainability event.**
- WFES brings together thousands of decision-makers, policy-makers, investors, experts and media from **175 countries** to source cutting-edge technologies, network with solution providers and does business.

Raisina Dialogue

- The Dialogue is being jointly organized by the **Ministry of External Affairs and the Observer Research Foundation.**
- The Dialogue was initiated in **2016** and involves a variety of global policymakers including heads of state, cabinet ministers and local government officials.

Renewable Energy Investors' Meet

- The **objective** of the Investors' Meet was to disseminate information about the opportunities available under renewable energy in Indian Railways.
- This meet was supported under **the Power Sector Reforms Programme**, as a part of cooperation agreed in **the MoU signed between UK's DFID and Indian Railways** on 2nd December 2019.

ELECRAMA 2020

- It is also a stage where all global leaders can meet and share their ideas to **develop cost effective solutions for the world.**
- ELECRAMA is the **largest congregation of power sector ecosystem** in the geography.

50th World Economic Forum

- The theme emphasizes Forum **Founder Klaus Schwab's** idea that managers have a duty to customers, suppliers and the wider economy, not just dividend-hungry shareholders.
- **Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal** will lead the Indian delegation at WEF 2020.

2nd Edition of NIC Tech Conclave-2020

- The theme for this year Conclave is **“Technologies for Next-Gen Governance”**.
- The two-day event is being organized by the **National Informatics Centre (NIC)**.

ECI to Host 10th Annual Meeting FEMBoSA

- **FEMBoSA** was established at the **3rd Conference of Heads of Election Management Bodies (EMBs) of SAARC Countries** held at New Delhi from in **2012** through a unanimously adopted resolution to establish the Forum.
- The annual FEMBoSA meeting is held by **rotation among the members**. The last (9th) annual meeting of FEMBoSA was held in **Dhaka in September 2018**.

India-Brazil Business Forum

- The delegation was led by the **President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Jair Bolsonaro**, and **India's Union Minister of Commerce and Industry & Railways, Piyush Goyal**.
- The India-Brazil Business Forum was organised by industry body **ASSOCHAM, The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India**.

3rd Global Potato Conclave

- **Gujarat is one of the leading producers of Potato in the country**, with a productivity of more than **30 tonnes per hectare**.
- In the last two decades, **two Global Potato Conferences were organized in 1999 and 2008**.

World Sustainable Development Summit 2020

- The World Sustainable Development Summit (**WSDS**) is the **annual flagship event of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**.
- The WSDS has continued the legacy of the erstwhile **Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS) which was initiated in 2001** with the aim of making 'sustainable development' a globally shared goal.