

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS 8TH TO 14TH
NOVEMBER 2019

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

India International Trade Fair 2019

- The **theme** of the fair is '**Ease of Doing Business**' on the eve of India's unique achievement in improving its rank in World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index to 63rd.
- The fair will serve as a **convergence point** for government and non-government agencies along with private sector enterprises.

NATIONAL NEWS

India's MMR declined by 8 points in One Year

- Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare stated the report and said India is on track to achieving the **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target** for reducing MMR by **2025**, five years ahead of the timeline of **2030**.
- MMR has declined by **6.2% from 130/ lakh live births in 2014-16 to 122/ lakh live births in 2015-17**.

Indian Railways launched 3 Online Applications

- Indian Railways has launched **three applications** for all-India roll out to strengthen its IT-enabled services.
- The apps will **ensure proper monitoring of projects** being undertaken by Railways.

World's First CNG port Terminal

- A CNG port terminal at **Bhavnagar port** is being set up jointly by the U.K. based **Foresight group** and Mumbai based **Padmanabh Mafatlal group**.
- Chief Minister **Vijay Rupani**, who is the **chairman of the Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board-GIDB** has approved the proposal to construct the terminal at Bhavnagar.

"Swachh-Nirmal Tat Abhiyaan"

- The **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)** has organised a cleanliness-cum-awareness drive under the **"Swachh - Nirmal Tat Abhiyaan"**.
- The Ministry has identified **50 beaches** under the "Swachh - Nirmal Tat Abhiyaan across **10 coastal States/Union Territories (UTs)**.

6th World Congress on Rural and Agricultural Finance

- The representatives of banks and financial institutions from over 40 countries have gathered in the conference to deliberate on the subject of **Rural and Agriculture Finance: Critical Input to Achieve Inclusive and Sustainable Development**.

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- **Asia - Pacific Rural Agricultural and Credit Association (APRACA)** is a regional association facilitates mutual exchange of information and expertise in the field of rural finance to avert financial risks.

National Seminar on Social Audit

- The seminar was jointly organised by the **Department of Rural Development and National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj**.
- **Social Audit** is a public assembly where all the details of a project are scrutinized that includes the resources, **both financial and non-financial**, used by public agencies for development initiatives.

UP govt launched e-Ganna App and Web Portal

- The web portal and e-Ganna App will help in strengthening the cane development societies by eradicating **cane mafia and middleman** between the sugar cane farmers and the sugar mills.
- The portal and the App will ensure transparency in the process of **getting slips, and facilitate sugarcane supply by farmers to mills and check irregularities**.

BANKING

RBI put Rs 5 lakh Penalty on Oxigen Services

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a fine of **Rs 5 lakh** on prepaid payment instrument Oxigen Services (India) Private Limited.
- Oxigen Services is a **Prepaid Payment Instrument (PPI)** issuer and facilitates payment processing and money transfer services.

Documentation Identification Number (DIN) System

- The step is aimed at bringing transparency and accountability in the **indirect tax administration** through the widespread use of information technology.
- Now the **CBIC communication** will have to have a Documentation Identification Number and **No communication would be issued without DIN**.

RBI increased Household Income Limits for borrowers of NBFC-MFIs

- The household income limits for borrowers of NBFCs and MFIs has been increased from **Rs 1 lakh to Rs 1.25 lakh for rural areas**.
- Similarly, the limit has been increased from the **current level of Rs 1.6 lakh for urban/semi urban areas to Rs 2 lakh**.

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
Justice Sanjay Karol	Chief Justice of Patna High Court
Pravind Jugnauth	Mauritius Prime Minister
Justice Muhammad Raffiq	Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court

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IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme
9 th November 2019	Foundation Day of Uttarakhand	--
11 th November 2019	National Education Day	--
11 th November 2019	Birth Anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad	--
12 th November 2019	550 th birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev	--
12 th November 2019	Public Service Broadcasting Day	--
14 th November 2019	Children's Day	--
14 th November 2019	Birth Anniversary of the first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru	--

MOU'S SIGNED

MoU signed between CSIR-IMTECH and IIT Bombay

- The MoU is in line with the circular issued by MHRD in **2018** to collaborate with **National Research Laboratories affiliated to CSIR** and paving way for all IITs.
- IMTECH's vision is to discover **new drugs to address key societal and medical needs**.

DEFENCE

2nd Edition of Exercise 'Samudra Shakti'

- The 2nd edition **Indian Navy - Indonesian Navy** Bilateral Maritime Exercise 'Samudra Shakti' was conducted in the **Bay of Bengal** from 6th Nov to 7th Nov 2019.
- An Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette, **INS Kamorta**, is jointly exercising with Indonesian Warship **KRI Usman Harun**, a multi-role Corvette.

Innovations for DEFENCE EXCELLENCE (iDEX)

- The Def-connect was organised to showcase the accomplishments of the **Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX)** initiative.
- '**Defence Innovation Organization (DIO)**' funds and manages the iDEX and was formed as a 'not for profit' company as per **Section 8 of the Companies Act 2013**.

Exercise TIGER TRIUMPH

- Indian Air Force **MI-17 helicopters**, Indian Naval ships **Jalashwa, Airavat and Sandhayak**, and Rapid Action Medical Team (**RAMT**) would participate from India.
- The exercise is being conducted to increase interoperability **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations**.

Exercise 'SHAKTI-2019'

- The **aim of the exercise** was to achieve interoperability in operational procedures, combat drills and understand the functioning in such situations.

- **'RUDRA' helicopter**, which is the weaponised version of the Advanced Light Helicopter **'Dhruv'** was included in the exercise.

SPORTS

Kento Momota won his 10th title as Japan's World No. 1

- **Kento Momota and Chen Yufei** won the titles in the men's and women's title respectively at the Fuzhou China Open Badminton.
- **Kento Momota** defeated Taiwan's world number two **Tien-chen** to win his **10th title as Japan's world number one**.

Sundar Singh wins Gold in World Para Athletics Championships

- The event was held in **Dubai**, UAE and will take place from 7th to 15th November 2019 at **Dubai Club for People with Determination**.
- This is India's **2nd gold** in the Championship after **Devendra Jhajharia's** gold and silver in 2013 Lyon and 2015 Doha Championships.

Saurabh Chaudhary wins Silver at the 14th Asian Championship

- **Saurabh Chaudhary** claimed the silver medal in men's **10m air pistol event** at the 14th Asian Shooting Championship.
- **Abhishek Verma, Sharvan Kumar and Saurabh** won the **team bronze** for India.

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

19th Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Meet

- **V Muraleedharan**, Minister of State in the External Affairs Ministry has participated in the event representing India.
- The **theme** of this year meeting is "**Promoting a Shared Destiny and Path to Prosperity in the Indian Ocean.**"

27th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations

- The conference is being organised by **the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)**.
- MoSPI has developed **National Indicator Framework (NIF)** for monitoring country's progress on SDGs. Also, the **NIF Baseline Report 2015-16** is released by the ministry to set the benchmark for measuring SDGs progress up to **2030**.

9th BRICS Trade Ministers Meet

- **Piyush Goyal**, Commerce and Industry and Railway Minister will attend the meet from India.
- An MoU with **Trade and Investment Promotion Agencies of BRICS countries** will be signed at the meet to enhance collaboration between the trade and investment promotion agencies of BRICS nations.

Dhaka Global Dialogue

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- The programme is jointly organised by the **Observer Research Foundation (ORF)** and the **Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS)**.
- The **theme** of the dialogue is “**Growth, development and Indo-Pacific**”.

India-ASEAN Business Summit

- The Union Minister of State Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), **Dr Jitendra Singh** addressed the Inaugural Session of 2-day **India-ASEAN Business Summit** on 11th Nov in **New Delhi**.
- The **objective** of the conference is to enhance the trade trajectory between India and ASEAN nations to new highs.

11th BRICS Summit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend 11th BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Summit on 14th November in **Brasilia, Brazil**.
- The **theme** for this year summit is “**Economic growth and innovative future for BRICS economies**”.

