

NOVEMBER 2019

**MONTHLY UPDATES ON
CURRENT AFFAIRS**

WILEY

National

- Justice **Sharad Arvind Bobde** who succeeded Justice **Ranjan Gogoi**, took oath as the 47th Chief Justice of India. His tenure is of 18 months and will retire on April 23, 2021.



- The 'Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill, 2019' has passed in the Parliament which seeks to amend the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Act, 1951. This bill has a provision to remove the President of the Congress party as a trustee and clarifies that when there is no Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, the leader of the single largest Opposition party will be the trustee. The Bill also allows the Central government to terminate the term of a nominated trustee before the expiry of the period of his term, without assigning any reason.
- PSLV-C47, India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle launched Vehicle-XL (PSLV-XL) Rocket from the second launch pad of the rocket port from Sriharikota. It carried advanced earth observation satellite Cartosat-3, 13 US nano satellites and 13 commercial nanosatellites from the United States of America as part of commercial arrangement with New Space India Limited (NSIL), Department of Space.



- 26 November is celebrated as the **Constitution Day** or **Samvidhan Divas** across the country to mark the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Indian Constitution by Constituent Assembly in 1949. India's constitution is the longest written constitution in the world. It took around 2 years, 11 months and 17 days to complete the Constitution.
- To End Violence Against Women', an awareness campaign and the part of '**#OrangeTheWorld**' Campaign, has been flagged off by the Ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with the UN Women. Under this initiative, people would be made aware about India's single emergency helpline 112, an internationally recognised emergency number used in several countries. The 112 helpline services, available in 27 States/UTs(Union Territories), can be reached through voice call, 112 India App, SMS (Short message service), email, respective state's 112 websites, and the panic button on mobile phones.



- The new logo and motto for the apex anti-corruption ombudsman has launched by the Lokpal Chairman Justice (Rtd.) Pinaki Chandra Ghose. The new motto is '**Ma Gridhah Kasyasvidhanam**' which means 'Do not be greedy for anyone's wealth' and the new logo symbolises how Lokpal protects and cares for the people of India by establishing justice as per law.



- Uddhav Thackeray**, the Chief of Shiv Sena and the nominee of Maha Vikas Aghadi (the Shiv Sena-NCP-Congress alliance) took oath as the 19th Chief Minister of Maharashtra. He is the first Thackeray family member to become Maharashtra's CM.



- After passing the bill which relates to 'Prevention of Offences Related to Sports', Sri Lanka has become the first South Asian nation to bring match-fixing cases to the category of crime. This rule will be applicable on all sports and the punishment is up to 10 years and fines.
- A short documentary film '**SHIKHAR SE PUKAR**' has been released by Union Minister for Jal Shakti, in New Delhi. This film is based on the journey of IAS Officer Ravindra Kumar and is made to promote the 'Jalshakti Abhiyan'.
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is the first Indian company which crossed Rs.10 lakh in market capitalization (m-cap). Announcement by the Vodafone India and Bharti Airtel to hike the tariff rates increased the share price of RIL. On November 26, 2019 its m-cap touched Rs. 9,99,045 crores (approx. Rs. 10 crores).
- Book '**Courts of India: Past to Present**' has been released in Guwahati, Assam by the Justice Ranjan Gogoi, the Chief Justice of India.
- As per the new guidelines rolled out by the Election Commission of India, the people over 80 years of age and Persons with Disability can now cast their votes through postal ballot.



- A monograph '**Musical Excellence of Mridangam**', has released by the Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu. It is a rare fusion of art and science of ancient South Indian instrument in the CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) campus in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

Economy

- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank**, a finance service company has launched an instant digital saving account along with the fixed deposit and privilege saving accounts to offer digital services to its customers.
- The Export-Import (Exim) Bank has provided a USD 30 million (about Rs. 210 crore) line of credit to Ghana for a potable water project in the country.

- To govern the rescue of non-bank lenders, the Government of India has issued fresh rules under the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)**. Reserve Bank of India has been given the authority to decide which companies will be taken up to a bankruptcy tribunal under these rules.



- State Bank of India's economic research team has revised the India's GDP to 5% from 6.1% in their report titled 'EcoWrap'.
- Banks can no longer charge savings bank account holders for online transactions in the NEFT system from January 2020 as per the report titled 'Furthering Digital Payments' released by the Reserve Bank of India.



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) permitted non-residents to open such accounts for rupee-denominated overseas borrowings, trade credit and trade invoicing for popularising cross-border transactions in the domestic currency by expanding the scope of Special Non-Resident Rupee Account (SNRR Account).
- Aditya Birla Finance**, a non-bank lender became the first company to list its commercial papers borrowing of Rs. 100 crores on the bourses.
- A loan of \$451 millions will be provided by the Asian Development Bank to strengthen power connectivity between the southern and northern parts of the Chennai-Kanyakumari Industrial Corridor (CKIC) in Tamil Nadu.
- Dewan Housing Finance Corporation has been superseded by the Reserve Bank of India for shortly initiate the process of resolution of the company under the insolvency and bankruptcy rules.

- ⊙ **Muthoot Finance Limited**, the largest gold loan non-banking finance company in country announced the agreement to acquire IDBI Asset Management Ltd and IDBI Mutual Fund Trustee Company Ltd.
- ⊙ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs. 1.5 crores on Corporation Bank for non-complying certain provisions of directions.
- ⊙ The two new IT Initiatives – **ICEDASH** and **ATITHI** unveiled by the Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to improve the monitoring and pace of customs clearance of imported goods and facilitate the arrival of international passengers.
- ⊙ The 2nd tranche of USD 150 million (about Rs. 1,065 crore) to boost capital investment and infrastructure in West Bengal has approved by Asian Development Bank.

Science And Technology

- ⊙ '**Vigyan Samagam 2019**', the first ever multi-venue mega science exhibition has inaugurated by the Union Minister of Science & Technology and Minister of Earth Science in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- ⊙ '**Farmitra**', a mobile app launched by Bajaj Allianz General Insurance to the ease of farmers.



- ⊙ A massive thermonuclear explosion coming from outer space has been deduced by NASA's "Neutron Star Interior Composition Explorer" telescope on the International Space Station. It is caused due to a massive thermonuclear flash on the surface of a pulsar.
- ⊙ India's first indigenously-designed standing wheelchair launched by Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, in collaboration with Phoenix Medical Systems.



- ⊙ Microsoft rolled out its K12 Education Transformation Framework more widely to schools across India at the second edition of the Microsoft Education Days in Gurgaon.

Sports

- ⊙ Indian shooters **Sangram Dahiya** and **Varsha Varman** won the gold at men's and women's double trap titles at the 63rd National Shotgun Shooting Championship in New Delhi.



- ⊙ Indian badminton player **Lakshya Sen** has won the Scottish Open badminton men's singles title. He defeated the Brazilian Ygor Coelho to seal his fourth title in 3 months.
- ⊙ **Elavenil Valarivan** and **Divyansh Panwar** clinching gold medals in their events to give the country its best ever single-day show in the ISSF World Cup Finals in Putian, China.



- ⊙ Spain's striker **David Villa** has announced his retirement from football. He last played as a striker for Japanese club Vissel Kobe and was at FC Barcelona from 2010 to 2013.



- © **Abhishek Verma** and **Jyothi Surekha Vennam** claimed the gold in compound mixed pair event at the 21st Asian Archery Championships, which ended in Bangkok, Thailand.



- © The 6th Davis Cup title for Spain has clinched by **Rafael Nadal** after beating Denis Shapovalov of Canada in front of a jubilant home crowd in Madrid.



- © The **2019 World Kabaddi Cup** will take place from December 1 to 9 in Punjab and will be organised by the Punjab government.
- © FIFA has banned 3 South American football officials- Former Peru Football Federation Manuel Burga and Argentinian officials Eduardo Deluca and Jose Luis Meiszner, for lifetime to have connection with a 2015 corruption scandal in football.
- © Indian paddler **Harmeet Desai** wins men's singles title at International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Challenge Indonesia Open 2019 held at Batam, Indonesia.
- © Boxer **Laishram Sarita Devi** is one among the 6 boxers from 5 continents who were elected as members of AIBA Athletes Commission.



- © The Brazilian football team won the 18th edition of the FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) under 17 World Cup trophy held in Brasilia, Brazil by defeating the football team of Mexico.



- © Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands) won F1 Brazilian Grand Prix at Interlagos in São Paulo, Brazil.
- © The 'International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)' has officially changed its name to 'World Athletics'.
- © India's **Manu Bhaker** created history at World Cup Finals in Women's 10m Air Pistol event of International Shooting Sport Federation at Putian in China.



Persons in News

- © **Sanjeev Nandan Sahai** assumed charge as Secretary, Ministry of Power. Prior to this, he was serving as the Special Secretary in the Ministry of Power.
- © **Arvind Singh**, IAS officer of 1988-batch, Maharashtra cadre, elected as the chairman of the Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- © **Dr. Vinaya Shetty** has been elected as the General Vice President (GVP) of International Organisation Development Association (IODA). He is the first Indian to get elected for this position since its inception in 1986.

- ⊙ **Thomas Dennerby** has been appointed as the Indian head coach of the Women's U-17 football team by the All India Football Federation. The FIFA U-17 Women's Football World Cup 2020 will host by India.
- ⊙ **Nils Andersen** has been appointed as the new chairman of the British-Dutch consumer goods company Unilever.
- ⊙ **T. Latha**, the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Dhanlaxmi Bank (private sector bank) has resigned and the resignation has been accepted by the bank's board.

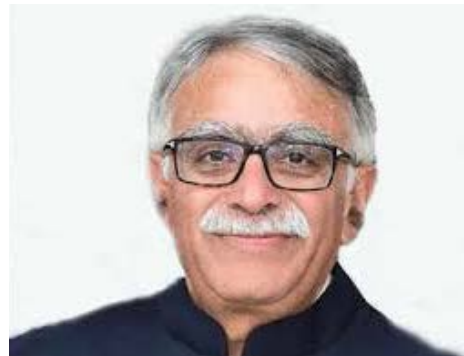


- ⊙ **Aditya Mishra**, senior IPS officer has been appointed as the chairman of the Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI).
- ⊙ **Suman Kathpalia** (former consumer banking head) has been appointed as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IndusInd Bank.
- ⊙ **Anjani Kumar** has been appointed as the next ambassador of India to the Republic of Mali by the Ministry of External Affairs.
- ⊙ **Mohammad Imran** has been appointed as the new High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India. He will succeed Syed Muazzem Ali.



- ⊙ **G. Kamala Vardhana Rao** has appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC).
- ⊙ Justices **Dr. Ravi Ranjan** and **Akil Abdulhamid Kureshi** have appointed as the Chief Justice of Jharkhand and Tripura High Courts, respectively.

- ⊙ BJP minister **Prakash Javadekar** took charge as the Union Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises after the resignation of Shiv Sena leader Arvind Sawant from the Union Cabinet.
- ⊙ Justice **Sanjay Karol** and **Amreshwar Pratap Singh** were sworn in as the Chief Justice of Patna and Madras High Courts, respectively.



- ⊙ **Arsène Charles Ernest Wenger** (known as Arsene Wenger), the former football player has been named for FIFA's Chief of global football development.
- ⊙ Justice **Muhammad Raffiq** sworn in as Chief Justice of Meghalaya High Court. He succeeded Ajay Kumar Mittal who took oath as the Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court.
- ⊙ Lieutenant Colonel **Jyoti Sharma** has appointed as the first female Judge Advocate General Officer of Indian Army to be deployed on a foreign mission.
- ⊙ **Nilam Sawhney**, the senior IAS officer has become the first woman Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh.
- ⊙ **Amur Swaminathan Lakshminarayanan** appointed as the managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of the Tata Communications for a term of five years.
- ⊙ Gymnastics Federation of India (GFI) has appointed the chairman **Sudhir Mital** and **Shantikumar Singh** as the president and general secretary, respectively.
- ⊙ **Suman Billa**, the 1996 batch-Kerala cadre senior IAS officer and the former director and secretary of Kerala Tourism has appointed as the director of United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO).



- General **Bipin Rawat** named as the first Chief of Defence Staff after ending his tenure as the Army Chief in December 2019.



- HR Khan**, the former Deputy Governor of RBI appointed as the first chairman of the steering committee of the Code of Responsible Lending (CRL) in micro-credit.

Plans and Policies

- Arundhati scheme has been approved by the Assam government. Under this scheme, the government will provide 1 Tola Gold to Brides free of cost.
- '**Rising Himachal**', two-days Himachal Pradesh Global investors' meet has inaugurated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Dharamshala.



- National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA) has been launched in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. This scheme was earlier launched across country by HRD Ministry in August 2019. In J&K, the First phase of training has been scheduled from 14 to 18 of November 2019. This mission aims at improving learning outcomes at Elementary level through integrated Teacher Trainings.
- A 10-member committee has set up by the Jammu and Kashmir government to declare Srinagar's famous Dal Lake and its surrounding areas an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ), following concerns over its shrinking size. The capacity of the lake has shrunk to 40% in last few years.

- The Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. to set up a 766-crore 2G ethanol plant in Haryana's Panipat district by the Ministry of Environment.
- Meghalaya Chief Minister has Inaugurated the 4th International Cherry Blossom Festival 2019 held in Shillong, Meghalaya.
- To add new dimensions in skilling and employability of the youth, the Odisha state government signed agreements with Tata Strive and Tech Mahindra.



- Two '**Health ATMs**' have installed by the Indian Railways at the Charbagh railway station in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.



- '**Nadu-Nedu**' programme' has launched by the Andhra Pradesh government. It aims to introduce English medium from classes 1 to 6 in state-run schools. It will cover all schools in three years' time with a budget of Rs. 12,000 crores.
- Gujarat Government has given approval to the world's first CNG terminal at Bhavnagar port, Gujarat. Joint venture of United Kingdom-based Foresight Group and Mumbai-based Padmanabh Mafatlal Group will invest Rs. 1,900 crores in the project.
- '**Sisseri Bridge**' which is built by the Border Road Organisation (BRO) on Pasighat-Bomjir Highway, Arunachal Pradesh has inaugurated by the Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

- ⊙ An unanimous resolution has been passed by the Punjab State Cabinet in commemoration of the 550th Prakash Purb of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji for the institution of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Award which will promote peace and interfaith understanding.
- ⊙ The Punjab Chief Minister (CM) Amarinder Singh has launched a first of its kind job helpline number 76260-76260 for the unemployed youth of the state under 'Ghar Ghar Rozgar' programme.
- ⊙ On the occasion of Children's Day, the Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights has launched a mobile app 'Sishu Suraksha' to empower citizens to take moral responsibility for protecting future generations.
- ⊙ 'E-Ganna', a dedicated web portal and a mobile application has launched by Uttar Pradesh government. This app is for sugarcane farmers of the state which will ensure transparency in the process of getting slips and facilitate sugarcane supply by farmers to mills and check irregularities.



C

- ⊙ Bio-Medical Equipment Waste Management Programme (BMEWMP) has launched by the National Health Mission Jammu & Kashmir, in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.
- ⊙ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has inaugurated North India's first sugar mill in Pipraich area of Gorakhpur which will produce ethanol direct from sugarcane.



Awards and Honours

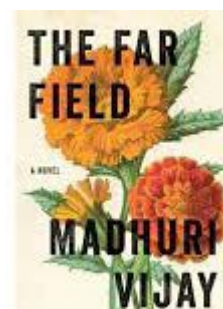
- ⊙ Indian actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui has been awarded the prestigious Golden Dragon Award at the Cardiff International Film Festival (CIFF) 2019 held in Wales, United Kingdom for his works in Hindi cinema.



- ⊙ Sand Artist Sudarsan Pattnaik has been selected for the prestigious Italian Golden Sand Art Award 2019.



- ⊙ Pepsico India has been awarded by the prestigious Award for Corporate Excellence by the US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.
- ⊙ 'The Far Field', a debut novel written by US based-Indian author Madhuri Vijay won JCB prize for Literature 2019, the most expensive Indian award for writing.



- © **Sara Damjanovic** from Serbia has been crowned 'Miss Asia Global 2019' at the 5th Edition of 'Miss Asia Global Title 2019', organized at Gokulam Convention centre in Kochi, Kerala.



- © The chairman of Aditya Birla Group, **Kumar Mangalam Birla** awarded by the ABLF Global Asian Award, for powerful individual whose business footprint and commitment to excellence have engaged international interest and attention.
- © Indian-origin researcher **Neeraj Sharma** has been awarded by the 'Early Career Researcher of the Year award' by the Australian government.
- © Writer, translator and film critic **Shanta Gokhale** awarded by the Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2019 and poet K Satchidanandan awarded by the Tata Literature Live! Poet Laureate for 2019.
- © Rajasthan Patrika group chairman **Gulab Kothari** has been chosen for the prestigious Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award, presented by the Press Council of India, for his outstanding contribution towards journalism.
- © Indian PhD scholar **Ravi Prakash** won the BRICS-Young Innovator Prize. He won this prize for inventing the affordable indigenous milk chilling unit for smaller and marginal rural dairy farmers.



- © **Eliud Kipchoge** and **Dalilah Muhammad** won the World Athlete of the Year awards. Eliud Kipchoge is the first man to run a marathon in less than two hours and Dalilah Muhammad is the world champion of 400 metres hurdles.



- © Wildlife biologist **K. Ullas Karanth** awarded by the George Schaller Lifetime Award in Wildlife Conservation Science. He is the director of Centre for Wildlife Studies, Bengaluru. This award is presented him for his contribution to the field of conservation.



- © **Robert De Niro**, the Hollywood veteran and Oscar award winner received the SAG-AFTRA's highest tribute: the SAG Life Achievement Award for career achievement and humanitarian accomplishment.
- © Two awards have been won by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) for its commendable initiatives to promote the metro as a green and sustainable mode of transport.
- © **Sir David Attenborough**, the renowned naturalist and broadcaster, awarded by the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2019 for his tireless work in the direction to preserve and protect biodiversity.
- © The Tobacco Board of India, Guntur won the Golden Leaf Award at Tab Expo 2019 for its efforts to initiate various sustainability (green) initiatives in Flue-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco cultivation in India.



- © **'Bhonsle'**, the critically acclaimed movie, directed by Devashish Makhija has won the 'Best Screenplay' and 'Best Director' awards at the Asian Film Festival Barcelona.



- © Tamil Nadu has won the Swachh Survekshan Grameen award 2019 in the category of top-ranked state while Peddapalli (Telangana) named as the top-ranked district, along with the state with the maximum citizen participation, Uttar Pradesh.

