

## Today's Headlines: Check out today's top stories

- Indian has moved up one place to rank 43<sup>rd</sup> most competitive economy in the world in the 2019 edition of the IMD World Competitiveness Rankings.
- Sri Lanka, Japan and India on May 28, 2019 signed an agreement to jointly develop the East Container Terminal at the Colombo Port.
- Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) launched 'Bank on Wheels' facility in 14 its lead districts in Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
- Puerto Williams, a hamlet in Chile, has been upgraded to the category of 'city' by Chilean authorities, making it the world's southernmost city.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up a committee to look into the current state of mortgage securitization in the country.
- Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Prof. Ashitosh Sharma released four popular science books published by Vigyan Prasar.
- IIT Guwahati has signed an MoU with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) to set up an IITG-ISRO Space Technology Cell (STC) at the institute.
- Astronomers have discovered an exoplanet with its own atmosphere in the Neptunian Desert.
- A new species of wasp from the genus Kudakrumia has been identified by scientists in Goa.
- Yoga instructor and fitness experts Namrata Menon was appointed as Goa's brand ambassador to promote the ancient system of physical and mental practices in the coastal state.

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- According to the analysis of the country's food and nutrition security, almost 1 in 3 Indian children under 5 years will still be stunted by 2022 going by current trends.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet on June 26 approved the appointment of Arvind Kumar as the new head of the Intelligence Bureau.
- NASA has confirmed that the Curiosity rover recently detected the largest amount of methane ever measured during the mission.
- The Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance is hosting a Meeting of Expert Working Group on Paris Pact Initiative in Afghanistan.
- The prosperous northern Italian regions of Lombardy and Veneto, representing Team Milan Cortina has won the bid to host the 2026 Winter Olympic Games.
- India announced an ambitious aim to set up 500 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy capacity by 2030 in what could potentially help the country reshape the global energy market dynamics.
- The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) directed Karnataka to release 9.19tmcft and 31.24tmcft of water in June-July, to Tamil Nadu.
- The first crew to the International Space Station after Russia's launch accident returned to earth safely on 25 June 2019.

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- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is among the 100 most influential women driving the UK-India relationship forward.
- According to a report by credit rating agency, gross NPAs in the banking system are set to fall by 350 bps to 8 percent by March 2020 from 11.5 percent in March 2018.
- India's candidature for a non-permanent seat at the powerful UN Security Council for a two-year term has been unanimously endorsed by the Asia-Pacific group at the world body.
- Mysuru Railway Station has become the first railway station in South Western Railway to receive the Integrated ISO Certificate.
- Over two crore users logged into the railway WiFi at 1,606 stations across its network in May 2019.
- Krishnaswamy Natarajan was appointed as the next Director General of the Indian Coast Guard.
- RBI's employees association has called for a collegium of experts to select a new governor and deputy governors so as to ensure the autonomy of RBI.
- Breakdancing, known as breaking in Olympic circles, moved a step closer to the 2024 Olympics.
- Mette Frederiksen has become the Denmark country's youngest ever Prime Minister.
- Larsen & Turbo (L&T) bagged a turnkey contract for building a power generation project worth over Rs 7,000 crore after a dry spell of three years.

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- Ending a decade's slide in the production of black tiger shrimps, Kerala is experiencing a comeback of it.
- Air India's Delhi-Mumbai flight, AI 865 was the last flight by Airbus 320 Classic aircraft, which will make way for the advanced and fuel-efficient Airbus 320 Neo.
- A small space rock crashed into the Mars' surface recently, producing a fresh crater that researchers estimate is 49 feet to 53 feet (15 to 16 meters) wide.
- According to a survey, Amazon India is the most attractive employer brand in the country followed by Microsoft India and Sony India. Others in the top 10 include Mercedes-Benz at 4<sup>th</sup> position, IBM (5<sup>th</sup>) and Larsen & Turbo (6<sup>th</sup>)
- Aviation executives descended on the Paris Air Show with pledges to improve transparency over plane safety.
- Vedanta's first pilot floating solar plant will be completed in the next 2-3 months.
- India won 2 bronze medals at the ongoing Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity with advertising agency.
- Maharashtra bagged the top slot, followed by Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the US Green Building Council's (USGBC) list.
- India for the first time will host the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in September 2019.
- Jashna Chinappa won a record 17<sup>th</sup> national squash title after outplaying Tamil Nadu's Sunayana Kuruvilla in the final.

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- The first semi-open prison for women will be inaugurated on June 20, 2019, in Tihar, Delhi.
- The armies of India and Myanmar carried out a three-week-long coordinated operation from May 16 in their respective border areas.
- According to a recent study, the use of Bitcoin, a popular virtual currency, emits over 22 mega tonnes of carbon dioxide annually.
- Virat Kohli became the fastest batsman to reach 11,000 runs in one-day internationals after scoring a fine half century against Pakistan.
- PM Narendra Modi spelt out his government's vision 2024 at the NITI Aayog's fifth governing council meeting at Rashtrapathi Bhavan.
- The new income tax guidelines kicked in from June 17, 2019 and apply to all cases for compounding received on or after this date.
- The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has launched a certificate programme in Yoga (CPY) ahead of the upcoming International Yoga Day.
- Assam Government will set up a Skill University at the cost of 850 crore rupees at Darrang district.
- Zuzana Caputova was sworn in as Slovakia's first female President.
- Suman Rao from Rajasthan won Femina Miss India World 2019 Title.

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- Online mutual fund investment platform FundzBazar announces the release of its new feature called 'Selfiewala KYC' for first-time mutual fund investors.
- The university Grants Commission (UGC) has launched a Consortium of Academic and Research Ethics (CARE)
- MP Government is set to sign a MoU with a company that has promised to build 300 Smart Gaushalas over the next 5 years.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes issued new norms for compounding of offences on June 14, 2019.
- Tech Mahindra board has promised appointment of former Axis Bank CEO Shikha Sharma and Khaitan & Co Partner Haigreve Khaitan as independent directors.
- Facebook Inc has enlisted companies including Via Inc, Mastercard Inc, PayPal Holdings Inc, and Uber Technologies Inc to back its new cryptocurrency.
- Directorate General of Training (DGT) joined Cisco and Accenture, to skill youth for the digital economy, through its Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)
- The Bengaluru-based NGO Akshaya Patra has been awarded the BBC World Service Global Champion Award.
- India has decided to impose retaliatory tariffs on 29 goods imported from the U.S. from June 16, 2019 onwards.
- The year 2019, marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of victory in 'Operation VIJAY' popularly known as the 'Kargil War'

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- 2 Indian women have been featured on American multinational IT firm IBM's list honoring 40 women in Artificial Intelligence (AI) from 15 different countries.
- India conducted a successful first test flight of the Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV) from a base off the Odisha Coast.
- Nripendra Misra and P K Mishra were re-appointed as the Principal Secretary and Additional Principal Secretary respectively to PM Narendra Modi with cabinet Minister rank.
- Japan has decided to invest about Rs 13,000 crore in several ongoing as well as new projects in different states of the north-eastern region.
- Union Cabinet approved the Aadhaar and other Laws (Amendment) Bill 2019 to replace Aadhar and other laws (Amendment) Ordinance 2019.
- Gymnastics Federation of India announced the Indian team for the Senior Asian Artistic Gymnastics Championship to be held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from 19-22 June 2019.
- Indian men's archery team secured the Olympic quota for the 2020 Tokyo Games by Storming into quarterfinals of the World Championships with a 5-3 win over Canada in Netherlands.
- The Union Cabinet approved a MoU on the corporation between India and Thailand in the field of Astronomy/Astrophysics/Atmospheric Science.

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- India's automobile major Mahindra won the Gold Award for fairing on various indicators.
- Gujarat has joined the Jurassic bandwagon with India's first ever Dinosaur-Museum-cum-Park in Raiyoli in Mahisagar district.
- US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo would visit India in June 2019 to forge relations with India.
- International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT) released India's first Type Approval Certificate (TAC) for Bharat Stage – VI (BS-VI) norms for the 2-wheeler segment in New Delhi.
- Facebook would reveal some new form factors, including Ripley, that portal would be shipped with.
- RBI has estimated that the gross non-performing assets ratio might improve to 10.3% by March 2019 from 10.8% in September 2018, in its half-yearly financial stability report.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman sought the views of different agriculture organizations and farm economists on ways to boost the farm sector growth and double farmer's income in her first pre-budget consultation.



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- Facebook is set to launch an updated version of its video chat device 'Portal' later in 2019.
- The system-wide non-performing assets stock has declined massively to 9.3% in March 2019.
- India's automobile major Mahindra won the Gold Award for fairing on various indicators.
- Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that single-use plastics will be banned in the country from 2021.
- China will enter into a trade deal with the United States, as told by US President Donald Trump.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman held her first pre-budget consultation meeting with representatives of farm bodies, Industry and Trade in New Delhi.
- Yuvraj Singh announced his retirement from all forms of cricket on June 10, 2019.
- Novak Djokovic topped the ATP rankings released on June 11, 2019.
- India has got an invitation from France to attend the outreach session at the G-7 summit to be held in France in August 2019.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has amended the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964.
- The RBI has allowed banks to offer cheque book facility and other services to the no-frills account holders.
- Indian Railway Station Development Corporation (IRSDC) entered a tripartite Agreement with French Railways (SNCF) & AFD, on June 10, 2019.

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- India's Ambassador in Beijing has inaugurated an Indian oleoresin extraction firm's 3<sup>rd</sup> manufacturing facility in the country to expand its business in the Chinese food market.
- PM Modi-led Central government has reconstituted eight key cabinet committees including appointments committee, the cabinet committee on economic affairs and security among others.
- Indian-American Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal held the Speaker's gavel becoming the first South Asian American woman to preside over the US House of Representatives.
- RBI Monetary Policy Committee unanimously cut repo rate, the rate at which it lends to banks by 25 basis points from 6% to 5.75%.
- Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Gehlot will participate in the "2<sup>nd</sup> Global Disability Summit" to be held at Buenos Aires Argentina during 6-8 June 2019.
- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) plans to frame pre-launch network testing rules for wired broadband operators on the lines of those in place for mobile services.
- China successfully launched a rocket from a ship at sea for the first time.
- PM ordered the formation of two new Cabinet committees that will focus on employment and economic growth.
- Air India's subsidiary, Alliance Air started two new flights from Odisha's Veer Surendra Sai (VSS) Airport in Jharsuguda.
- IT major Wipro will acquire US-based International Techne Group Incorporated (ITI) for \$45 million.

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- L&T Financial Services' (LTFS) 'Digital Sakhi', an educational programme aimed at digital financial inclusion of rural women, was launched in 20 villages of villupuram district in Tamil Nadu.
- India and China held the sixth round dialogue on disagreement and non-poliferation in New Delhi on June 3, 2019.
- Ashok Leyland on June 4, 2019 has partnered with Suryoday Small Finance Bank for vehicle loans.
- The Delhi Metro has become the first ever project in the country to receive power generated from a waste-to-energy plant.
- Gianni Infantino was re-elected as president of the football governing body FIFA for a four-year term until 2023.
- Fincare Small Finance Bank and Kookmin Bank have been included in the second schedule of the Reserve Bank of India Act.
- Bajaj Finserv announced partnership with motherhood hospitals, a comprehensive network of women & children hospital.
- An experimental antiviral drug, remdesivir, designed to treat Ebola virus disease can effectively help fight off Nipah virus.
- A study titled 'Environmental impact of the Swachh Bharat Mission on Water, Soil, and Food' was released by the UNICEF on June 5, 2019.
- Women members of Deccan Development Society (DDS) sanghams have bagged one of the most coveted UN awards- Equator Prize for 2019.

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- An American employment service company has agreed to pay \$1.1 million in back wages to nearly 600 H-1B employees.
- Australia's Macquarie University researchers revealed salt traces trapped in many diamonds show they are formed from ancient seabed that got recycled after being buried deep beneath earth's crust.
- China will stage the 2023 Asian Cup football after South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia dropped their bids.
- The US has imposed major new travel restrictions on its citizens visiting Cuba.
- Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar launched a people's campaign #SelfiewithSapling urging all to join and plant a sapling and post the selfie with the sapling on social media.
- Google's India-born CEO Sundar Pichai and Nasdaq president Adena Friedman have been chosen for the prestigious Global Leadership Awards 2019.
- The Airports Authority of India (AAI) signed a technical assistance agreement with aerospace major Boeing.
- US terminated India's preferential trade status under the Generalized System of Preference (GSP) programme.
- The Reserve Bank of India has revealed that more than 6,800 cases of bank fraud involving an unprecedented Rs 71,500 crore were reported in 2018-19.
- Delhi government has announced its plan to subsidize travel in public transport for women commuters in the capital.

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- In order to provide safe travel experience to women, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced free ride for them in all Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses, cluster buses and Delhi Metro trains.
- The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has called on governments to implement the carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) as agreed through the UN International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
- The Punjab and Haryana High Court has accorded the status of “legal person or entity” to animals in Haryana, granting them the “corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a living person”
- ONGC, India’s top oil and gas producer, has toppled Indian Oil Corp (IOC) to regain crown of being the country’s most profitable public sector company.
- CEO Tim Cook and other leaders will make a keynote presentation at the Worldwide Developers Conference in San Jose, California, to unveil updates of Apple’s operating systems and a new approach to apps.
- The RBI’s monetary policy committee (MPC) will cut the key policy rate by 25 basis points (bps) as inflation cooled and economic growth slowed to a five-year low.
- National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) data showed that India has 20.6 health workers per 10,000 people.