

GENERAL AWARENESS

Wimbledon win

Novak Djokovic clinched fifth Wimbledon title and 16th major on 14th July 2019, shattering Roger Federer's bid to become the oldest Grand Slam champion in the longest final ever played at the tournament

Djokovic is the first man in 71 years to win the title from match points down. He is now level with Bjorn Borg as a five-time Wimbledon winner.

Simona Halep won woman Wimbledon title. The Romanian champion Halep defeated Serena Williams 6-2, 6-2 in just 56 minutes to clinch her first Wimbledon title.

Serena Williams was trying to win her record-equalling 24th Grand Slam singles title, but she failed in a final for the third time.

England scripts history

In the grand finale of ICC Cricket World Cup 2019, England cricket team defeated New Zealand cricket team in the Super Over thriller to lift their maiden World Cup title at The Lord's cricket stadium in London on 14th July 2019.

Batting first after winning the toss, New Zealand had posted 241/8 in 50 overs in reply to which, England ended at the same score leading to the one-over eliminator.

In the Super Over, England batted first and the duo of Ben Stokes and Jos Buttler made 15 runs, and New Zealand also ended at the same score but for the loss of one wicket, paving the way for an English victory on boundary count.

Multidimensional Poverty Index

UN Development Programme released the 2019 global Multidimensional Poverty Index.

Multi-dimensional poverty defines poor not only on the basis of income, but on other indicators, including poor health, poor quality of work and the threat of violence.

The report says that India lifted 271 million people out of poverty between 2006 and 2016, recording the fastest reductions in the multidimensional poverty index values during the period with strong improvements in areas such as “assets, cooking fuel, sanitation and nutrition.

The report said that in the 101 countries studied — 31 low income, 68 middle income and 2 high income - 1.3 billion people are “multidimensional poor”, which means that poverty is defined not simply by income, but by a number of indicators, including poor health, poor quality of work and the threat of violence.

In 2005-2006, the population in India living in multidimensional poverty stood at about 640 million people (55.1 per cent) and this reduced to 369 million people (27.9 per cent) living in poverty in 2015-16.

Incidence of multidimensional poverty halved in India due to faster progress among the poorest in the country, the report said. Among states, Jharkhand had the greatest improvement, with Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, and Nagaland only slightly behind.

Agri-Business Incubation Centre

An Agri-Business Incubation Centre has started in Chhattisgarh. The centre is set up by the Union Agriculture Ministry in the Indira Gandhi Agriculture University of Raipur.

It focuses on innovations, skill building and entrepreneur's development in agriculture and allied sectors, will act as catalyst for developing an ecosystem conducive for the growth of agri-entrepreneurship in the state and foster a start-up culture.

The Agri-Business Incubation Centre is set up under the National Agriculture Development Scheme- RAFTAAR (Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied sector Rejuvenation)

The objective of the scheme is to make farming a remunerative economic activity by strengthening farmer's efforts, risk mitigation and promoting agri-business entrepreneurship.

Under the scheme, guidance, technology and infrastructure will be provided to youth and entrepreneurs for start-ups in different areas of agriculture.

World Population Day

World Population Day is observed on July 11th every year. It was established by the United Nations Development Programme in 1989. World Population Day, which is being celebrated for over three decades, is meant to raise awareness about solutions related to the issues of growing population.

Each country celebrates World Population Day in a different way. A majority of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) offices celebrate the World Population Day by making posters and conducting essay and sports concerts to create awareness regarding the cause.

Current estimates indicate that roughly 83 million people are being added to the world's population every year.

Even assuming that fertility levels will continue to decline, the global population is expected to reach 8.6 billion in 2030, 9.8 billion in 2050 and 11.2 billion in 2100, according to the medium-variant projection.

Performance Grading Index 2017-18

As per the Performance Grading Index 2017-18, Chandigarh has been ranked best among states and Union territories in the field of education and is followed by Kerala and Gujarat.

Arunachal Pradesh is the least performing state and has been ranked 36 on the index.

Kerala is the state with highest literacy rate followed by Lakshadweep and Mizoram.

The states were ranked on basis of five parameters including learning outcomes and quality, access, infrastructure and facilities, equity and governance process

India, Russia space cooperation

India and Russia held high-level talks in New Delhi to elevate bilateral co-operation to the next level in the field of space, including assistance in India's maiden human space flight mission 'Gaganyaan'.

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Dmitry Rogozin, Director General of Russia's space agency (ROSCOSMOS) led the two sides in the meeting.

The possibilities for the production of space systems in India were an important part of the discussions.

Co-operation in futuristic technologies including new space systems, rocket engines, propellants and propulsion systems, spacecraft and launch vehicle technology were also discussed.

World Bank MD and CFO

Anshula Kant, Managing Director of State Bank of India, has been appointed as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the World Bank.

She will be responsible for financial and risk management of the organisation.

Her work will include oversight of financial reporting, risk management, and working closely with the World Bank CEO on the mobilization of the International Development Association (IDA) and other financial resources. IDA is the part of the World Bank that helps the world's poorest countries.

President of the World Bank David Malpass said Kant brings more than 35 years of expertise in finance, banking and innovative use of technology.

Meghalaya water conservation

Meghalaya became the first state in India to ensure the conservation of water and have own water policy.

The draft policy was approved by the State Cabinet in a meeting chaired by Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma.

The objective of the policy is to recognize water resources as a common pool resource, to provide safe and hygienic water for drinking, domestic and sanitation and livelihood development to all residents of the state.

It also aims at ensuring protection and conservation of catchment areas of all water sources to prevent degradation of the quantity and quality of water sources.

Pink City gets World Heritage Tag

The Walled City of Jaipur, known for its architectural legacy and vibrant culture on made its entry into the UNESCO World Heritage Site list.

The announcement was made after the 43rd Session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee at Baku in Azerbaijan from 30th June to 10th July, examined the nomination of the Walled City of Jaipur for inclusion in the World Heritage list.

The city was proposed to be nominated for its value of being an exemplary development in town planning and architecture that demonstrates an amalgamation and important exchange of ideas in the late medieval period.

The historic walled city of Jaipur in Rajasthan, was founded in 1727 AD under the patronage of Sawai Jai Singh II. It serves as the capital city of the culturally-rich state of Rajasthan.

Copa America 2019

Brazil defeated Peru 3-1 to win Copa America 2019. The event was held in Brazil.

The Mascot is Zizito a capybara whose name pays homage to Zizinho, the Brazilian footballer who shares the all-time goal-scoring record in the Copa America (17 goals with Argentine Norberto Doroteo Mendez)

Copa America 2019 main slogan is "Vibra el Continente/Vibra o Continente" (Rocking the Continent).

Brazil's veteran right back Dani Alves became the player of the tournament.

Kyriakos Mitsotakis

Centre-right candidate Kyriakos Mitsotakis was sworn-in as the new prime minister of Greece as his New Democracy party won a landslide victory in the country's parliamentary elections, putting an end to the rule of leftist Syriza government.

In his victory speech Mitsotakis vowed that Greece will "proudly" enter a post-bailout era of "jobs, security and growth".

The election came as Greece struggles to emerge from a nearly decade-long financial crisis that saw its economy plunge by a quarter and thousands of mostly young people head abroad seeking better economic opportunities.

Model Questions

1. FIFA women's world Cup won by...?

1) USA

2) South Korea

3) Brazil

4) Croatia

5) Argentina

2. Which operation launched by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) to crackdown the selling of unauthorized Packaged Drinking Water (PDW) in the premises of railway stations?
 - 1) Operation Milap
 - 2) Operation Madad
 - 3) Operation Thirst
 - 4) Operation Sudarshan
 - 5) Operation Vijay
3. Which state has been adjudged as one of the country's five best performing states in 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao', a central scheme aimed at addressing declining child sex ratio and issues of women empowerment?
 - 1) Andhra Pradesh
 - 2) Bihar
 - 3) Uttarakhand
 - 4) Jharkhand
 - 5) Uttar Pradesh
4. Deposits in Jan Dhan Yozana accounts recently crossed ... ?
 - 1) Rs.2 lakh crore
 - 2) Rs.3 lakh crore
 - 3) Rs.5 lakh crore
 - 4) Rs.1 lakh crore
 - 5) Rs.2.5 lakh crore
5. Copa America 2020 to be hosted by...?
 - 1) USA and Brazil
 - 2) UK and Germany
 - 3) Columbia and Argentina
 - 4) Mexico and Russia
 - 5) Chile and Panama
6. Which state is among the poorest regions in the world improving the fastest poverty reduction from 74.9% to 46.5% in the ten years as per the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)?
 - 1) Uttar Pradesh
 - 2) Madhya Pradesh
 - 3) Jharkhand
 - 4) Bihar
 - 5) Himachal Pradesh
7. Parliament adopted a statutory resolution for levying 200 per cent duty on all goods originating in or exported from....?
 - 1) Pakistan
 - 2) Afghanistan
 - 3) USA
 - 4) UK
 - 5) Japan
8. Dilmun Burial Mounds of which country has been inducted into the list of World Heritage Sites by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)?
 - 1) Italy
 - 2) Iraq
 - 3) Iran
 - 4) Bahrain
 - 5) Japan
9. Who was named as the Men's Footballer of the year 2019 at the All India Football Federation's (AIFF) Awards for the third consecutive year ?
 - 1) Sandesh Jhingan
 - 2) Lallianzuala Chhangte
 - 3) Sunil Chhetri
 - 4) Jobby Justin
 - 5) Kamaljit Singh
10. In which country first model village built with Indian assistance inaugurated recently? The total assistance declared by India Rs.1,200 million (\$17.5 million) to build 100 Model villages.
 - 1) Myanmar
 - 2) Nepal
 - 3) Pakistan
 - 4) Sri Lanka
 - 5) Afghanistan

11. Winter Olympics 2022 to be hosted by?
- 1) Thailand 2) Norway 3) Beijing 4) Finland
5) Ireland
12. First train to be operated by private players in India is Tejas Express that run between...?
- 1) Delhi-Lucknow 2) New Delhi-Agra
3) Vijayawada-Varanasi 4) Dibrugarh-Kanyakumari
5) Ahmedabad-Mumbai
13. Who was awarded with the Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his contributions to the UK-India relationship in 2019 UK-India Awards?
- 1) Tulip Mazumda 2) David Ross 3) Mark Tully 4) Raman Satru
5) P.Mukopadyaya
14. India signed a deal withfor acquiring the 'Strum Ataka' anti-tank missiles
- 1) USA 2) Japan 3) UK 4) Russia
5) Australia
15. Which nation's mid-career civil servants will be trained at the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) in Mussoorie between 2019-2025?
- 1) Pakistan 2) Sri Lanka 3) Bangladesh 4) Afghanistan
5) Myanmar
16. Special Rhino Protection Force deployed in Kaziranga National Park located in the state of...?
- 1) Manipur 2) Mizoram 3) Meghalaya 4) Assam
5) Tripura
17. Finance Minister in the budget told that every verified woman in Self Help Group member having a Jan Dhan Bank Account, get an overdraft of ...
- 1) Rs.5,000 2) Rs.50,000 3) Rs.15,000 4) Rs.20,000
5) Rs.10,000

KEY

1-1; 2-3; 3-3; 4-4; 5-3; 6-3; 7-1; 8-4; 9-3; 10-4; 11-3; 12-1; 13-3; 14-4; 15-3; 16-4; 17-1.