

## NATIONAL

### Govt sets up tribunal to review ban imposed on Jamaat-e-Islami, JKLF

- The Government of India (GoI) has set up a tribunal, headed by Justice Chander Shekhar of the Delhi High Court, to adjudicate if there exists sufficient cause to ban the Jama'at-e-Islami Jammu and Kashmir (JeI) and the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front – Yasin Malik (JKLF-Y) faction.
- The decision has been taken by the Home Ministry exercising the powers conferred under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.
- The JeI and the JKLF-Y were declared as unlawful associations on February 28 and March 22 respectively.

### Phayeng Village of Manipur tagged as India's first carbon-positive settlement

- Phayeng, a scheduled caste village of the Chakpa community in Imphal West district of Manipur has been tagged as India's first carbon-positive settlement.
- it has been revived from the dry and denuded village through the sheer determination of its residents and funding under National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC), which is a central scheme launched in 2015-16 to support adaptation for climate change impact in various states.

## INTERNATIONAL

### South Korea to launch world's first 5G networks

- South Korea will launch world's first 5G mobile networks.
- It would be a transformational leap that already has USA and China sparring for control of an innovation that could potentially change the day-to-day lives of billions of people.
- The superfast communications supported by fifth generation (5G) wireless technology will ultimately underpin everything from toasters to telephones; from electric cars to power grids.

### What is 5G technology?

- 5G (5th Generation) is the latest generation of cellular mobile communications.
- It succeeds the 4G (LTE-A, WiMax), 3G (UMTS, LTE) and 2G (GSM) systems. 5G performance targets high data rate, reduced latency, energy saving, cost reduction, higher system capacity, and massive device connectivity.

### Nepal-India Franchise Investment Expo and Conclave 2019

- The Nepal-India Franchise Investment Expo and Conclave will be held during May 15-16, 2019 in Kathmandu.
- The objective behind the conclave is to build the relations between India and Nepal through entrepreneurship development.
- It will help in bringing the leading Indian iconic brands to Nepal, which will directly bring investment into Nepal along with technology transfers and business knowledge.

### Asian Development Outlook 2019

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has published its 'Asian Development Outlook 2019' report. Growth in developing Asia is projected to soften to 5.7% in 2019 and 5.6% in 2020.
- Excluding Asia's high-income newly industrialized economies, growth is expected to slip from 6.4% in 2018 to 6.2% in 2019 and 6.1% in 2020.
- ADB has cut India's growth forecast to 7.2% for 2019-20 because of a slower-than-expected pickup in investment demand.
- The growth rate in Financial Year 2020-21 is likely to be 7.3%.

## ECONOMY

### First Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement 2019-20: RBI cuts Repo Rate to 6%

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on April 4, 2019 released its First Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement 2019-20.
- After assessing the current and evolving macroeconomic situation in the economy, the six member- Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to:
- Reduce the policy Repo Rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 25 basis points to 6 percent from 6.25 percent with immediate effect.
- Consequently, the Reverse Repo Rate under the LAF stands adjusted to 5.75 percent.
- The Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate stand at 6.25 percent.

#### Highlights of the Monetary Policy

- Inflation remained below the RBI's 4 percent target for 7 months but core inflation, excluding food and fuel.
- The CPI inflation was revised downwards to 2.4 percent in Q4 of 2018-19, around 2.9-3 percent in the first half of 2019-20 and 3.5-3.8 percent in the second half of 2019-20.
- The committee projected GDP growth of 7.2 percent in the financial year 2019-20.

### Bajaj Finserv wins gold for 'Digital Marketing Excellence' at DIGIXX 2019

- Bajaj Finance Ltd., the lending arm of Bajaj Finserv, India's fastest growing and most diversified Non-Banking Financial institution bagged the gold award for 'Digital Marketing Excellence in Financial Service'— for its Fixed Deposit digital campaign at DIGIXX 2019 Awards by Adgully

### RBI Sets Limits For Ways and Means Advances

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in consultation with the government of India has set the limits for Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for the first half of the financial year 2019-20 (April 2019 to September 2019) at Rs.75000 crore.
- WMA is the temporary loan facility provided by the RBI to the Centre and State governments.
- The WMA scheme was introduced in 1997 to meet any temporary mismatches in the receipts and payments of the government. The WMA needs to be vacated after 90 days.
- The limits for WMA are decided by the RBI and in consultation with the Government of India..

## PERSON IN NEWS

### David Malpass named World Bank President

- Senior US Treasury official David Malpass was unanimously chosen as the new President of the World Bank.
- Though citizens from all member countries are considered eligible for the bank's top job, since its inception following the second World War, all of the bank's presidents have invariably been from the United States.

### Vikram Kirloskar takes charge as CII President

- Vikram Kirloskar took charge as the new President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

#### Confederation of Indian Industry

- CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry led and industry-managed organization, playing a proactive role in India's development process.
- Founded in 1895, CII works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the development of India, partnering industry, Government, and civil society, through advisory and consultative processes.

**Vipin Anand takes charge as Managing Director of LIC**

- Vipin Anand has taken charge as Managing Director (MD) of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India.
- The Life Insurance Corporation of India was founded in 1956, headquartered in Mumbai.
- LIC's slogan 'Yogakshemam Vahaamyaham' is in Sanskrit which loosely translates into English as "Your welfare is our responsibility".

**AWARDS AND HONOURS****UAE honoured PM Narendra Modi with Zayed Medal**

- The United Arab Emirates honoured PM Narendra Modi with its highest decoration, Zayed Medal in recognition of his "pivotal role" in strengthening ties between the two nations.
- India and UAE are one of the largest trade partners for each other and have made robust investments bilaterally with bilateral trade amounting to almost USD 50 billion in 2017.
- The UAE accounts for 8 percent of India's oil imports and is the fifth largest supplier of crude oil to India.

**Zayed Medal**

- The Zayed Medal is the highest decoration of the UAE awarded to kings, presidents and heads of states.
- The honour has previously been conferred on the leaders of several countries including Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, and Queen of the United Kingdom Elizabeth II.

**List of major International Awards conferred upon Prime Minister Modi**

- PM Narendra Modi conferred with first-ever Philip Kotler Presidential Award 2019.
- PM Narendra Modi awarded with prestigious Seoul Peace Prize 2018 for 'Modinomics'.
- PM Modi honoured with UN Champions of the Earth Award 2018.
- PM Modi conferred with 'Grand Collar of the State of Palestine'.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi awarded with Amir Abdulla Khan Award of Afghanistan.
- PM Modi conferred with King Abdullaziz Sash Award of Saudi Arabia.

**Shah Rukh Khan felicitated with an Honorary Doctorate by London's University of Law**

- After the honorary doctorates from The University of Bedfordshire and The University of Edinburgh, superstar Shah Rukh Khan has received an honorary doctorate in Philanthropy by The University of Law, London.

**SPORTS AND GAMES****FIFA world football rankings 2019**

- FIFA has released world football rankings.
- India rose two points and gets 101st rank while Belgium tops the list.
- FIFA said in its report, there were 150 games played across the globe during the international period, things remain tight at the top of the FIFA World Ranking as the top three remained unchanged.
- Belgium (1st, unchanged) maintained a slender lead over 2018 FIFA World Cup winners France (2nd, unchanged).
- Brazil (3rd, unchanged), however, are looking over their shoulders somewhat as England (4th, up 1) leapfrogged World Cup finalists Croatia (5th, down 1).

**FIFA**

- The Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) is an association governed by Swiss law founded in 1904 and based in Zurich.

- It has 211 member associations and its goal, enshrined in its Statutes, is the constant improvement of football.

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### Hayabusa-2 successfully drops explosive on asteroid

- Japan's spacecraft Hayabusa-2 recently dropped an explosive on an asteroid to make a crater.
- Hayabusa-2 is an asteroid sample-return mission operated by the Japanese space agency, JAXA.
- It's aim was to make a crater on asteroid. Also, this spacecraft will collect its underground samples to find possible clues to the origin of the solar system.
- The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency JAXA said that Hayabusa-2 dropped a "small carry-on impactor" made of copper onto the asteroid.

#### US Department of Agriculture closes 'kitten slaughterhouse'

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced to soon remove the practice of using cats in research work.
- According to a watchdog group, the use of cats involved forced "cannibalism" and resulted in killing of over 3000 cats since 1982.

#### NASA plans to land astronauts on Mars by 2033

- After plans to land American astronauts on the Moon by 2024, four years ahead of its previous schedule, NASA now proposes to put humans on Mars by 2033.
- At a congressional hearing on NASA's budget in fiscal year 2020, NASA administrator Jim Bridenstine cited the goal of putting astronauts on Mars by 2033.

### DAY&DATE

#### World Health Day 2019: April 4

- The theme of World Health Day 2019 is '**Universal Health Coverage: Everyone, Everywhere**'.
- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with the World Health Organisation (WHO) formed a Solidarity Human Chain as part of the 'World Health Day 2019' celebrations to reaffirm their commitment towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

#### International Mine Awareness Day :4 April

- International Mine Awareness Day was observed across the world on 4 April, 2019.
- The theme of International Mine Awareness Day 2019 was "**United Nations Promotes SDGs – Safe Ground –Safe Home**".

#### National Maritime Day: 5 April

- India celebrates National Maritime Day on 5 April which is dedicated to country's glorious maritime history.
- The theme of the National Maritime Day 2019 celebrations is "**Indian Ocean-An Ocean of opportunity**".

### ONE LINER

- Prehistoric fossil of a 40 million-year-old whale found in Peru, Lima
- 'Sahulat', a mobile app launched to facilitate elder voters in Jammu.
- Femina Miss India 2017 runner up Sana Dua has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Jammu and Kashmir election department for general polls.