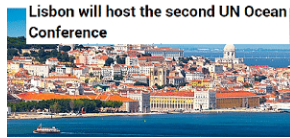




2020



United Nations to hold Ocean Conference 2020 in Portugal

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has decided to hold Ocean Conference 2020 in Lisbon, Portugal from June 2 to 6, 2020 with a theme of “Scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: stocktaking, partnerships and solutions.”

The objective of this conference is to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) which stated as to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Japan has begun testing the ALFA-X version of its fastest-ever Shinkansen bullet train that could reach 400 km per hour (249 mph)



The bullet train **ALFA-X (Advanced Labs for Frontline Activity in Rail Experimentation)** is scheduled to start its service in **2030**, when, rail company **JR East** would operate it at 360 kilometres per hour (224 mph).

This speed will make it **10 kph faster than China’s Fuxing Hao**, which links Beijing and Shanghai and operates at the same top speed. This would make **ALFA-X, the world’s fastest bullet train**. Japan’s bullet trains made their **debut in 1964** and symbolises the country’s focus on efficiency and reliability. In the same year, that is, in 1964, Tokyo Olympics were held.

Igor Stimac set to be appointed Indian football team coach

Croatia’s World Cupper and former manager Igor Stimac has been appointed as Indian men’s team coach after the All India Football Federation’s (AIFF) technical committee recommended him for the post. He succeeds Stephen Constantine.

India receives its first Apache Guardian attack helicopter in Boeing’s production facility in Mesa, Arizona US



The Indian Air Force legally received its 1st Apache **Guardian attack helicopter AH-64E (I)** during a ceremony at the Boeing production facility in **Mesa, Arizona, US (United States)**. This first attack helicopter in India’s defence arsenal was received by Air Marshal **AS Butola, IAF**. In September 2015, India signed a **\$1.4 billion deal with the US government and Boeing**

for 22 attack helicopters (AH- 64 E Apache helicopters), of which the 1st batch of helicopters will be shipped to India by July.

UNEP Report states that India & China tops a list of nations for illegal sand mining

According to the recent report released by the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** titled '**Sand and Sustainability: finding new solutions for environmental governance of global sand resources**', **India and China top a list** of nations where illegal sand mining has become a key environmental issue.

World Migratory Bird Day 2019 celebrated on May 11

The World Migratory Bird Day for 2019 is observed on **May 11**. It is celebrated **twice** in the year, which falls on the second Saturday in **May and October**. In 2019, it will be celebrated on May 11 and October 10. The theme for this year is "**Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution!**".

IPS officer who oversaw Nirbhaya rape case receives McCain Institute Award

IPS officer Chhaya Sharma, who led the investigation team of the infamous Nirbhaya gang-rape and murder case, has been awarded the 2019 McCain Institute Award for Courage and Leadership.

National Technology Day

It's National Technology Day, observed on May 11 across India and the day also marks India's progress in science and technology. It was on May 11 that India conducted its nuclear missile Shakti, also known as **Operation Shakti**. The National Technology Day was coined by late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

CURRENT AFFAIRS= 12-05-2019

According to WHO's report, India faces severe shortage of healthcare providers, especially in Bihar, Jharkhand, U.P. & Rajasthan

The WHO (World Health Organization) has published a research paper titled '**Forecasting the future need and gaps in requirements for public health professionals in India upto 2026**' in the '**WHO South-East Asia Journal of Public Health**', in which it states that India faces critical shortage of healthcare professionals, especially in **Bihar, Jharkhand, U.P. (Uttar Pradesh) & Rajasthan** which have **the worst hit** ratio as compared to Delhi, Kerala, Punjab and Gujarat which are in a relatively better position.

The 58th Venice Biennale is held from 11th May to 24th November 2019 at Venice, Italy

After a long gap of 8 years, India has again marked its presence at the 58th Venice Biennale, Italy which will be held from **11th May till 24th** November 2019 (6 month's period). The theme at the is 'Our Time for a Future Caring'. The theme for Indian Pavillion is titled '**Hundred and Fifty years of Mahatma Gandhi**'.

2019 Meetings of the COPs to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions held in Switzerland

In Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG) Geneva, Switzerland, the **14th** meeting of the **Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention (BC COP-14)**, the **9th** meeting of the **Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (RC COP-9)** and the **9th** meeting of the **Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (SC COP-9)** held from **April 29 to May 10, 2019**. The theme of the meeting was **“Clean Planet, Healthy People: Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste”**. In the meeting, **187 countries** pledge to restrict the **global plastic waste** but **United States** has refused to take part in this pledge.

Indian actress Dia Mirza and Alibaba Chief Jack Ma are among the new 17 UN advocates for SDGs



The United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed 17 new advocates to achieve **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. These include the Indian actress **Dia Mirza** and the Chief of **Alibaba Group, Jack Ma**. The appointed UN advocates must drive action and strengthen the global political will to achieve the SDGs.



World's first women's cricket magazine “CRICZONE” launched

Recently, the world's first exclusive women's cricket magazine **“CRICZONE”** released with Indian women's cricket team vice captain **Smriti Mandhana** featured as the cover story. The **publisher** of the magazine is **Yash Lahoti**.

International Nurses Day 2019 observed on May 12

On 12th May 2019, The International Nurses Day was celebrated globally to commemorate the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale also known as **‘The Lady with the Lamp’**, was famous as manager and trainer of nurses during the Crimean War. The theme for the International Nurses Day 2019 is **–‘Nurses – A Voice to Lead –Health for All’**.