

# 1-10 August 2019 Current Affairs



**1)** The online pilot project of Union Govt.'s ambitious "One Nation, One Ration Card" scheme was launched in which 2 set of states on 9 August 2019? – **Maharashtra- Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh-Telangana**

(The government on 9 August 2019 launched inter-state portability of ration cards between Telangana-Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra-Gujarat as a pilot project to implement 'One Nation, One Ration Card' across the country by 1 June 2020. Beneficiaries in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh can now buy their quota of ration from Public Distribution System (PDS), or ration shops, in either state. Similar would be the case in Maharashtra and Gujarat)



**2)** Which country has the highest number of 'living' indigenous languages in world, as was disclosed in the Ethnologue, a comprehensive directory of languages? – **Papua New Guinea**

(Papua New Guinea, the island country in the Pacific Ocean has highest number of 'living' indigenous languages in world – 840. India is placed at the fourth place with as many as 543 'living' indigenous languages. This was disclosed in Ethnologue, the directory of languages with listing of 7,111 living languages globally)



**3)** What is the present Repo Rate after the RBI reduced it by 35 basis points in its 3<sup>rd</sup> Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy Review on 7 August 2019? – **5.40%**

(The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) monetary policy committee (MPC) on 7 August 2019 lowered its Repo Rate by an unconventional 35 basis points to 5.4%. This was the fourth reduction in a row of its key policy rate since Shaktikanta Das took over as the governor of the central bank in December 2018. All members of RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) were unanimous in reducing repo rate)



**4)** Which film was chosen as the Best Feature Film in the 66<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards that were declared on 9 August 2019? – **"Hellaro"**

(Gujarati film "Hellaro" was chosen as the Best Feature Film in the 66<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards. Directed by Abhishek Shah and written by Prateek Gupta, "Hellaro" is set in Kutch and explores the theme of women empowerment. AyushmannKhurrana and Vicky Kaushal were chosen jointly for the Best Actor Award for "Andhadhun" and "Uri" respectively while Keerthy Suresh was chosen for Best Actress Award for her performance in Telugu film "Mahanati". "Uri" director AdityaDhar was adjudged Best Director)



**5)** Mrs. Y.G. Parthasarathy, who passed away on 6 August 2019, was an eminent personality associated with which field? – **Education**

(Mrs. Y.G. Parthasarathy, popularly known as Mrs. YGP was an acclaimed educationist, journalist and patron of the arts. She founded the Padma SeshadriBalaBhavan Group of Schools. She was one of the first women in the field of journalism in Tamil Nadu. Mrs. YGP was conferred with several

awards including the Padma Shri in 2010. She passed away at the age of 93 on 6 August 2019)

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## 11-13 August 2019 Current Affairs



**1)** During August 2019 who was elected as the next President of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and will be the first woman to head this prestigious institution? - [Chandrima Shaha](#)

(Chandrima Shaha will be the first woman to hold the post of the President of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA). Her appointment was announced during August 2019. She will assume her office from 1 January 2020. A biologist by profession, Shaha was previously the vice-president of INSA and the director of the National Institute of Immunology in Delhi)

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**2)** Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) on 12 August 2019 unveiled a mega-deal in which it will sell 20% of its stake company's flagship chemicals and refining business to Saudi Aramco. What is the value of this deal? - [\\$15 billion](#)

(Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) is in the process of selling a 20% stake in the company's flagship chemicals and refining business to Saudi Aramco in a deal valued at \$15 billion. This deal is part of a plan to make RIL a zero-debt company in the next 18 months)

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**3)** During August 2019 who became the first-ever Indian to win the FIM Bajas World Championship? - [Aishwarya Pissay](#)

(23-year old Indian woman rally racer Aishwarya Pissay became the first-ever Indian to win the FIM Bajas World Championship racing title. She participated in the Women's Category and led the leaderboard having secured podium finishes in two out of four rounds in the championship. The last and final round of the championship was held in Hungary over the second weekend of August 2019 and saw the 23-year-old finish fourth)

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**4)** The Bar Council of India (BCI) on 11 August 2019 imposed how many year's moratorium on starting new law colleges in the country? - [3 years](#)

(Taking note of mushrooming of law colleges in the country, the Bar Council of India (BCI) imposed a three-year moratorium on opening of new institutions barring national law universities, if proposed by a state. The BCI also reiterated that it lays stress on the improvement of standard of existing institutions and that the ones without any proper infrastructure or faculty would be closed down. According to BCI there are around 1500 law colleges in the country)

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**5)** Which banned insurgency group of Tripura signed a peace accord with the Union Government on 11 August 2019? - [National Liberation Front of Tripura - SD](#)

(National Liberation Front of Tripura led by Sabir Kumar Debbarma, NLFT-SD has agreed to abjure the path of violence and join the mainstream. An MoU was signed in this regard between, Centre, Tripura Government and NLFT-SD on 11 August 2019. The group agreed to the surrender its 88 cadres with their weapons. The surrendered cadres will be given surrender benefits as per the Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation Scheme, 2018 of the Home Ministry)

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# 14-20 August 2019 Current Affairs



**1)** How much outlay for JalJeevan Mission was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address on 15 August 2019? – **Rs. 3.5 lakh crore**

(Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his Independence Day address at the Red Fort in Delhi on 15 August 2019, announced an outlay of Rs. 3.5 lakh crore for JalJeevan Mission for Centre and states to work together to provide water to every household. The JalJeevan Mission, under the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, will focus on integrated demand and supply-side management of water at the local level, including the creation of local infrastructure for source sustainability like rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge, and management of household wastewater for reuse in agriculture)

**2)** Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address on 15 August 2019 made an important announcement regarding establishment of the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) for the three services. What is the main objective of CDS? – **Ensuring better coordination between the three services**

(The demand for having a Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) for the three services -- the Indian Army, the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force has been raised on multiple occasions by experts and veterans. It was first recommended after the 1999 Kargil War. The post is aimed at ensuring better coordination between the three services. CDS will act as the single-point advisor to the Government of India)



**3)** According to a study released on 19 August 2019, India is the world's largest emitter of which pollutant gas? - **Sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)**

– India is the world's largest emitter of anthropogenic Sulphur dioxide, which is produced from coal burning, and greatly contributes to air pollution. This was disclosed in an analysis report prepared by US space agency NASA and released by environmental NGO Greenpeace on 19 August 2019. India has more than 15% of all anthropogenic Sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) hotspots in the world detected by the OMI (Ozone Monitoring Instrument) satellite. The major SO<sub>2</sub> emission hotspots in India are Singrauli in Madhya Pradesh, Neyveli and Chennai in Tamil Nadu, Talcher and Jharsuguda in Odisha, Korba in Chhattisgarh, Kutch in Gujarat, Ramagundam in Telangana and Chandrapur and Koradi in Maharashtra)



**4)** Which two sportspersons were named for the country's highest sporting honour, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award for year 2019? – **BajrangPunia** and **Deepa Malik**

(Ace wrestler BajrangPunia and paralympic athlete Deepa Malik are set to be awarded with the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2019, India's highest sporting honour. 19 sportspersons were selected for Arjuna Awards 2019. The list includes cricketer Ravindra Jadeja, track and field stars Tejinder Pal Singh Toor, Mohammed Anas and Swapna Barman, footballer Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, hockey player Chinglensana Singh Kangujam and shooter Anjum Moudgil)



5) V.B. Chandrasekhar, who died on 14 August 2019, was a former sportsman associated with which sports? – [Cricket](#)

(V.B. Chandrasekhar was an Indian cricketer, who represented the country in seven One Day Internationals (ODIs) during 1988-90. He played for Tamil Nadu and Goa at the domestic level. After representing India in the Rothmans triangular series in 1990 he was never selected for Indian team. He committed suicide on 14 August 2019 and was 57)

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3) Who was named as the next Cabinet Secretary by the Union Government on 21 August 2019? – [Rajiv Gauba](#)

(Union Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba was on 21 August 2019 appointed as the next Cabinet Secretary for a tenure of two years. Gauba, a 1982-batch IAS officer of the Jharkhand cadre, will initially join as the Officer on Special Duty in the Cabinet Secretariat, before he takes over the charge of the country's top bureaucracy from the incumbent Cabinet Secretary PK Sinha)

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## 21-22 August 2019 Current Affairs



1) Which state government on 21 August 2019 broke an old glass barrier by allowing women as drivers for public sector undertakings in the state? – [Kerala](#)

(Kerala on 21 August 2019 broke an old glass barrier against appointing women drivers in public sector units. The state government announced its decision to recruit women to driver posts in different state govt. departments and public sector undertakings)

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2) What is the name of the first ever humanoid robot sent into the space by Russia on 22 August 2019? – [“Fedor”](#)

(“Fedor” is the name of the life-size humanoid robot that was launched into space by Russia on 22 August 2019. It was sent into to assist astronauts on the International Space Station (ISS) through a Soyuz MS-14 spacecraft from Russia's Baikonurcosmodrome in Kazakhstan. “Fedor”, which stands for Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research in Russian, will spend 10 days learning to assist astronauts on the ISS. It is Russia's first-ever space humanoid)

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4) Who was appointed the new Defence Secretary on 21 August 2019? – [Ajay Kumar](#)

(The Union Government appointed Ajay Kumar as the new Defence Secretary. He replaces Sanjay Mitra whose term ends on 23 August 2019)

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## 23-27 August 2019 Current Affairs



1) The 2019 Summit of the G7 countries was held from 24 to 26 August 2019 at which place? – [Biarritz, France](#)

(The 45<sup>th</sup> Summit of the G7 countries was held from 24 to 26 August 2019 in Biarritz (France). Hotel du Palais hosted the two-day event that featured world's seven developed countries. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was one of the three special invitees at the summit and was invited by French President Emmanuel Macron. At the sidelines of the summit Prime Minister Modi met US President Donald Trump in an important meeting)

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**2)** Indian badminton ace P.V. Sindhu defeated which player in the women's singles final of BWF World Championship to win her maiden badminton world champion title on 25 August 2019? – [NozomiOkuhara](#)

(P.V. Sindhu created history as she became the first Indian to win a Badminton World Championships gold by beating familiar rival NozomiOkuhara of Japan in a lop-sided final in Basel (Switzerland) on 25 August 2019. She defeated Okuhara by 21-7, 21-7 in just 38 minutes)

**3)** The RBI approved how much payout to the central government as was announced on 26 August 2019 which is the record payout of all-time? – [Rs. 1.76 lakh crore](#)

(The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved a record Rs. 1.76 lakh crore (\$24.4 billion) to the central government. The payout includes Rs. 1.23 lakh crore as dividend and Rs. 52,640 crore from its surplus capital. It is worth mentioning that a panel to study RBI's economic capital framework led by BimalJalan had recommended that RBI should transfer its surplus to the government)

**4)** During his August 2019 Prime Minister NarendraModi became the first-ever Indian Prime Minister to visit which middle-east country? – [Bahrain](#)

(On 24 August 2019 Prime Minister NarendraModi became the first-ever Indian Prime Minister to visit Bahrain. On this occasion the PM was conferred with 'The King Hamad Order of Renaissance' award by King of Bahrain Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa)



**5)** What is the name of the general level officer of the Indian Army who became the first serving general to complete France's oldest cycling event,

the grueling 1,200-km Paris-Brest-Paris circuit? – [Lt. General Anil Puri](#)

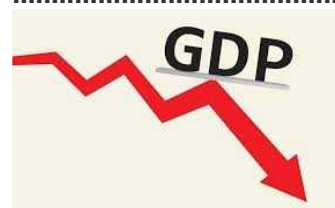
(56-year old Lt. General Anil Puri etched his name in the history books as on 22 August 2019 he became the first serving Indian general level officer to complete the 1,200-km Paris-Brest-Paris cycle race. He completed the race by cycling non-stop for around 90 hours from Rambouillet on the outskirts of Paris to the Brest military port on France's western tip and back)

## 28-31 August 2019 Current Affairs



**1)** Union Finance Minister NirmalaSitharaman on 30 August 2019 announced 4 mega mergers in Indian public sector bank. Which 4 banks will emerge as strong banking entities after this merger? – [Punjab National Bank, Canara Bank, Union Bank of India and Allahabad Bank](#)

(Finance minister NirmalaSitharaman on 30 August 2019 announced the merger of Punjab National Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank with business of Rs. 17.5 trillion to make India's second-largest bank. The other merger will be between Canara Bank and Syndicate Bank, which will make the fourth-largest bank, with Rs. 15.2 trillion business. Also, Union Bank of India will be merged with Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank to build India's fifth-largest public sector bank with Rs. 14.59 trillion in business. Indian Bank will be merged with Allahabad Bank to make India's seventh-largest PSB with a business of Rs. 8.08 trillion)



**2) What is India's GDP growth rate for the first quarter of 2019-20 (ended June 2019), which is the slowest growth rate in more than six years? – [5%](#)**

(India's economy reported its weakest growth in more than six years at 5% in the June quarter and slowed for the sixth straight quarter, according to the latest data released on 30 August 2019. It is worth mentioning that China's economy grew 6.2% in the June quarter despite the ongoing trade war with the US. India's manufacturing sector virtually collapsed at just 0.6% as against 3.1% growth in the preceding three months. The only sector that has registered a robust pickup is electricity, growing at 8.6% in June quarter from 4.3% in March quarter)

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**3) The Union Government on 28 August 2019 constituted a 5-member Group of Ministers (GoM) on Jammu & Kashmir. Who are the five ministers included in this GoM? - [Ravi Shankar Prasad](#), [Thawar Chand Gehlot](#), [Narendra Singh Tomar](#), [Jitendra Singh](#) and [DharmendraPradhan](#)**

(The government on 28 August 2019 constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) to look into development, economic and social issues in the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh that will come into existence on 31 October 2019. Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Thawar Chand Gehlot, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister for the PMO Jitendra Singh and Petroleum Minister DharmendraPradhan are part of the group)

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**4) Which country during August 2019 launched world's first of its kind facial biometric-based ID for its seafarers? – [India](#)**

(In a move to boost employment in the coastal shipping sector, India became the first country in the world to issue a Biometric Seafarer Identity Document (BSID) to its seafarers. The new document will give a foolproof identification to Indian seafarers that will facilitate their movement, provide ease of getting jobs and help in identifying them from any location in the world)

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**5) Which Indian major corporate group slipped into loss for the first time in last 10 years, as was reported on 30 August 2019? – [Aditya Birla Group](#)**

(For the first time in at least a decade, Aditya Birla Group companies reported losses at the group level in FY19, thanks to Vodafone Idea. The group firms reported combined losses of Rs 6,134 crore in FY19 against a net profit of Rs. 5,414 crore a year ago. Excluding Vodafone Idea, the group reported a net profit of Rs. 8,470 crore, down from a profit of Rs. 9,582 crore a year ago)

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