

## 1-7 February 2020 Current Affairs



**1)** On 5 February the Senate acquitted US President Trump from impeachment charges. He thus became the third US President to be acquitted by the Senate after being impeached by the House of Representatives. Who are the other two presidents? – [Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton](#)

(Former Presidents Andrew Johnson (in 1868) and Bill Clinton (1999) are the other two US Presidents to have been impeached by the House of Representatives and later acquitted by the Senate. It is worth mentioning that President Trump was impeached by the House of Representatives on 18 December 2019 as the House approved articles of impeachment on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress)



**2)** The Madagascar Government on 6 February 2020 thanked Indian Government and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for sending humanitarian assistance during the recent cyclone in the country. What was the name given to this humanitarian operation undertaken by INS Airavat? – [“Operation Vanilla”](#)

(Operation Vanilla” was the name given to the operation undertaken by the Indian Navy on 29 January 2020 under which INA Airavat was diverted to Antsiranana in the far north of Madagascar based on request received from Madagascar after large-scale devastation caused by Cyclone Diane. The naval ship undertook relief operations to provide succour to the flood affected populace)

**3)** During February 2020 the Union Cabinet gave in-principle approval for the establishment of a new major port at Vadhavan, Maharashtra. This port will be .....th major port of India – [13th](#)

(On 6 February 2020 the Union Cabinet gave in-principle approval for the establishment of a new major port at Vadhavan, Maharashtra. This will be the 13 major port in India. Other 12 major ports in the country include Kolkata (Haldia), Vishakhapatnam, Kandla, Jawaharlal Nehru Port (Mumbai), Paradip, Kamarajar Port (Tamil Nadu), Mormugao (Goa), Cochin, New Mangalore, Chennai Port, Tuticorin and Mumbai Port. The total cost of Vadhavan Port project is Rs.65,544crore)

**4)** Which city received World Heritage Certificate from the UNESCO on 5 February 2020? – [Pink City of Jaipur](#)

(The UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay on 5 February 2020 presented the World Heritage Certificate to the Pink City of Jaipur. This certificate was given for the efforts of the people of the pink city towards preserving its cultural heritage. Jaipur's Parkota has been listed in the World Heritage sites)

**5)** World number two Novak Djokovic defeated world number five Dominic Thiem to win 2020 Australian Open men's singles title on 2 February 2020. He has now won this title how many times? – [8 times](#)

(Novak Djokovic of Serbia won his eighth Australian Open men's singles title as he defeated Austrian Dominic Thiem in a grueling five-set final by 6-4, 4-6, 2-6, 6-3 and 6-4. With this title win Djokovic became the third man to win at least eight titles at the same Grand Slam, joining Rafael Nadal (French Open, 12) and Roger Federer (Wimbledon, eight))



**6)** Who won the women's singles title of Australian Open on 1 February 2020 to win her maiden Grand Slam title? – [Sofia Kenin](#)

(21-year old American tennis player Sofia Kenin defeated the experienced GarbineMuguruza of Spain by 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 in the final of 2020 Australian Open women's singles title on 1 February 2020 to win the first-ever Grand Slam title of her career. She

also became the youngest American to win a Grand Slam women's singles title since Serena Williams in 2002)

## 8-13 February 2020 Current Affairs

7) India's first deep-water gas-field shut down operations from 3 February 2020. This gas field located in the Bay of Bengal was owned by which company? - [Reliance Industries Limited](#)

(India's first deep-water gas field run by MukeshAmbani's Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) ceased to produce from 3 February 2020. Put on production in April 2009, the gas field located in the Bay of Bengal had been on a decline as sand and water ingress forced closure of wells. A \$1-billion investment had extended life of fields by four years)

8) What is the new deposit insurance cover (in case of bank failure), as was proposed in the Union Budget 2020 presented by Union Finance Minister NirmalaSitharaman on 1 February 2020? – [Rs. 5 lakh](#)

(Finance Minister NirmalaSitharaman announced that the deposit insurance cover provided by Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) in case of bank failure is being increased to Rs. 5 lakh. The deposit guarantee limit has remained unchanged since 1993 at Rs. 1 lakh)

9) The Union Cabinet on 5 February 2020 approved to confer the status of Institution of National Importance to which 5 IIT institutions? – [Agartala, Bhagalpur, Bhopal, Raichur and Surat](#)

(The Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIITs) at Agartala, Bhagalpur, Bhopal, Raichur and Surat are working under public-private participation (PPP) model. The Union Cabinet on 5 February 2020 gave its approval to confer the status of Institution of National Importance (INI) to these 5 institutions. Institutes of National Importance receive special recognition and funding from the Government of India)



1) The World Health Organization (WHO) on 11 February 2020 gave which official name to the novel coronavirus that originated in China? - ['COVID-19'](#) ('COVID-19' is now the official name of the coronavirus strain that has killed more than 1,300 and infected around 63,000 people in China. An official name gives a standard format to use for any future outbreaks of the strain. The new name was agreed by the WHO in conjunction with the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO))

2) Which entity was the highest loss-making public sector undertaking (PSU) in 2018-19 for third consecutive year? – [BSNL](#)

(Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) remained the highest loss-making public sector undertaking in the country with net losses of Rs. 14,904 crore during the year. Air India's losses were at Rs 8,474 crore and MTNL's losses stood at Rs 3,390 crore. This was disclosed by the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises in a written reply to RajyaSabha on 10 February 2020. On the other hand ONGC was the highest profit earning PSU entity with net profits of Rs 26,716 crore during the year)



3) Hyderabad-based Anant Technologies Limited (ATL) came to limelight recently due to which reason? – [It became the first Indian private company to sign deals to build foreign-owned satellites in India](#)

(Hyderabad-based Anant Technologies Limited (ATL) signed deals to build six foreign-owned satellites in India, a first by an Indian private company. The firm will open a satellite making facility by the end of February 2020 in Bengaluru to build the foreign-owned satellites weighing between

50 kg and 250 kg for customers in Sweden and France. ATL is a supplier of systems for the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) satellites)

4) The Union Government approved the infusion of how much amount capital into three PSU general insurers, as was disclosed on 12 February 2020? –

**Rs. 2,500 crore**

(The government has approved infusion of Rs. 2,500 crore capital into three PSU general insurers - Oriental Insurance Company Limited, National Insurance Company Limited and United India Insurance Company Limited. The infusion is being done in the light of the critical financial position and breach of regulatory solvency requirements of the three entities)



5) Bangladesh defeated defending champions India by 3 wickets to win their maiden ICC under-19 Cricket World Cup in the final played at Potchefstroom (South Africa) on 9 February 2020. Which Indian player was declared Player of the series? – **Yashasvi Jaiswal**

(Indian batsman Yashasvi Jaiswal, who scored 400 runs during the tournament was declared Player of the series ICC under-19 Cricket World Cup that was held from 17 January to 9 February 2020 in South Africa. Bangladesh created history by winning the coveted trophy for the first time as they shocked defending champions India in the finals)



6) Which film won the Best Picture Oscar at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Academy Awards ceremony that was held on 9 February 2020? – **“Parasite”**

(The South Korean film “Parasite” won 4 Oscars including the award for Best Picture at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Academy Awards ceremony. This film thus became the first film not in the English language to do so. The director of this film Bong Joon-ho won the Oscar for Best Director. Joaquin Phoenix won

the Best Actor Oscar for his leading role in film "Joker" while Renée Zellweger won the Best Actress Oscar for film "Judy". The British war film “1917” won three awards, while “Ford v Ferrari”, “Joker”, and “Once Upon a Time in Hollywood” won two awards each)

7) Which entity overtook US private equity firm Blackstone to emerge as the largest private investor in India in 2019? - **Brookfield Asset Management**

(As per data disclosed by deals tracker Venture Intelligence, Canada's Brookfield Asset Management overtook US private equity firm Blackstone to emerge as the largest private investor in India in 2019. Brookfield's investments totalled nearly \$6.28 billion in 2019 compared with Blackstone's \$2.38 billion)



8) Wendell Rodricks, who passed away on 12 February 2020, was a noted personality associated with which field? – **Fashion Designing**

(59-year old Wendell Rodricks was a famous Indian fashion designer, social activist and author. After being associated with many brands he had launched his own label in 1989. He was the first Indian designer to be invited to IGEDO (the world's largest garment fair) in 1995 and also the first Indian designer to open the Dubai Fashion Week in 2001. He was conferred India's fourth highest civilian award Padma Shri in 2014. He passed away in his hometown Goa on 12 February 2020)

9) According to the data released by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), which is the noisiest city among 6 Indian metro cities? – **Chennai**

(With average noise levels of 67.8 decibels (dB), Chennai was the noisiest city among 6 Indian metro cities during 2018. Delhi's noise levels stood at 61 dB)

10) The Union Government on 11 February 2020 issued a final notification to consider all medical devices as drugs. Now all medical devices will come under the lens of the Central Drugs and Standard



Control Organization (CDSCO) from which date? –  
[1 April 2020](#)

(According to the notification by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, all medical devices, including implants and contraceptives, will be brought under the lens of the Central Drugs and Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) in a phased manner starting 1 April 2020. It is worth mentioning that the increased scrutiny on medical devices comes in the aftermath of Johnson & Johnson's faulty hip implants)

## 14-15 February 2020 Current Affairs



1) Which Indian origin politician took over as the new Finance Minister of Britain on 13 February 2020? - [Rishi Sunak](#)

(British PM Boris Johnson named Rishi Sunak as new Finance Minister (Chancellor of the Exchequer) after Sajid Javid's resignation. He is the son-in-law Infosys Co-founder NR Narayana Murthy and became the second-youngest chancellor in modern British history after George Osborne, who was 38 when he took the role in 2010. Sunak studied Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Oxford University and did MBA from Stanford University)

2) Which state government on 13 February 2020 announced a price ceiling for bottled drinking water being sold across the state? – [Kerala](#)

(Kerala government announced a price ceiling for bottled drinking water being sold across the state to Rs. 13 per litre. The cap was done after the state recognised bottled drinking water as an 'essential commodity'. According to state government notification, no private bottled drinking water manufacturer can sell its product at more than the fixed cap)



3) Former Teri chief RK Pachauri passed away in Delhi on 13 February 2020 at the age of 79 years. He headed which international body on climate change for whom he accepted the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007? - [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – IPCC](#)

(Rajendra Kumar Pachauri (RK Pachauri) was the head of the IPCC from 2002 to 2015. The IPCC was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 during his tenure which the body shared with former US Vice-President Al Gore. Pachauri was the Founder Director the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), a Delhi-based think tank on issues such as environment, energy and sustainable development. TERI is now listed as one of the world's top think tanks on environmental issues)

4) Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on 13 February 2020 ordered severing of Israel's ties with which UN organisation? - [UN Human Rights Council](#)

(The order for freezing of Israel's ties with UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) came after the UN human rights office published a report naming 112 Israeli companies doing business in settlements built on land Palestinians consider theirs)



5) Who was appointed the new CMD of Air India on 13 February 2020? – [Rajiv Bansal](#)

(Senior bureaucrat Rajiv Bansal was on 13 February 2020 appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Air India. The post became vacant after incumbent Ashwani Lohani completed his tenure. Bansal, a 1988-batch IAS officer of the Nagaland cadre, is currently the Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. It is worth mentioning that Bansal was in August 2017 named as Air India's interim CMD for three months. As part of the ambitious strategic disinvestment, the government had on 27 January 2020 issued the preliminary bid document

for 100% stake in Air India, which has a debt pile of over Rs. 60,000 crore)

(ArvindKejriwal took the post of Chief Minister of for the third time continuously on 16 February 2020. His AamAadmi Party (AAP) bagged 62 out of the 70 assembly seats in the recent concluded Delhi polls in which BJP managed only eight and the Congress drew a blank. Kejriwal's first term as CM was from 28 December 2013 to 14 February 2014 while his second term was from 14 February 2015 till 16 February 2020)



6) Who became who became the first Indian to win the FIH Player of the Year award? – **Manpreet Singh**

(Men's hockey team captain Manpreet Singh on 13 February 2020 became the first Indian to win the FIH Player of the Year award. He beat Belgium's Arthur van Doren and Lucas Vila of Argentina to the top global hockey award for the year 2019. Manpreet won a total of 35.2% of combined votes, which includes National Associations, media, fans and players)

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3) The first-ever UN Biodiversity Summit started from 17 February 2020 at which place in India? – **Gandhinagar**

(The first edition of the United Nations Biodiversity Summit started at Gujarat capital Gandhinagar from 17 February 2020. The summit brought together more than 1,200 delegates from over 110 countries to deliberate on the alarming decline of migratory species. The Summit will conclude on 22 February 2020. The agenda of the talks include new proposals to mitigate effects of infrastructure on migratory mammals and joining the Gobi bear, the only bear living in the desert, the Persian leopard and the urial, a wild sheep, in the Central Asian mammal species for their protection)

16-17 February 2020 Current Affairs



1) The Reserve Bank of India's central board, in its meeting held on 15 February 2020, decided to change the bank's financial year to April-March. The central bank was following which term for financial year till now? – **July to June**

(The RBI has followed a July-June financial year since 1940, when it moved away from a January-December year. RBI will start following April-March financial year after a nine-month year ending 31 March 2021)

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4) What is the name of country's first corporate overnight train comprising of AC sleeper coaches that was flagged-off on 16 February 2020? – **Kashi-Mahakaal Express**

(Kashi-Mahakaal Express is the name of the Indian Railways' first corporate overnight train and was flagged-off by Prime Minister NarendraModi on 16 February 2020. It is overall the third corporate train of the country and is also operated by IRCTC like the other two trains. This train will run three days a week between Varanasi and Indore (via Ujjain) and links three jyotirlingas of Lord Shiva – KashiVishwanath, Mahakaal and Omkareshwar. Kashi-Mahakaal Express comprises of all AC 3-tier bogies and offers many modern facilities as well as wholesome food)



2) Arvind Kejriwal, AAP senior leader and national convener, was sworn-in as the Chief Minister of Delhi on 16 February 2020. This is his .....which continuous term as Delhi CM – **Third**

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5) The first death from COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outside Asia was reported on 15 February 2020 from which country? – **France**

(A Chinese tourist died in France on 15 February 2020 after contracting coronavirus. This was the first fatality from COVID-19 outside Asia. The victim was an 80-year-old person from China's Hubei province, according to French Health Minister AgnèsBuzyn)

## 18-20 February 2020 Current Affairs



**1)** Who was named the Chairman of the Sri Ram JanmabhoomiTeerthaKshetra Trust, the body formed to take-up the construction on Ram Temple at Ayodhya? – [MahantNriyaGopal Das](#)

(MahantNriyaGopal Das, the Chief of Ram JanmabhoomiNyas was chosen the Chairman of the Sri Ram JanmabhoomiTeerthaKshetra Trust (SRJTKT) in its first meeting held on 19 February 2020. Vishva Hindu Parishad's vice-president ChampatRai was chosen the General-Secretary of the Trust. On the other hand Nripendra Mishra, the former Principal Secretary of Prime Minister NarendraModi, was chosen the chairman of the Ram Temple Complex Development Committee, Trust's body to oversee the construction of the temple)



**2)** Who are 3 members of the Supreme-Court appointed interlocutors body to persuade the ShaheenBagh protesters to move to another venue that held the first round of parleys with the protesters on 19 February 2020? - [Sanjay Hegde](#), [WajahatHabibullah](#) and [SadhanaRamachandran](#)

(The Supreme Court on 17 February 2020, while hearing a plea against the blockade in ShaheenBagh in Delhi, appointed senior advocate Sanjay Hegde, former Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) WajahatHabibullah and advocate SadhanaRamachandran to mediate with the protesters and persuade them to move their

protest to an alternative site where no public place is blocked. These two interlocutors held the first round of parleys with the protesters on 19 February 2020. However, the talks remained inconclusive)

**3)** The official motto for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics was revealed on 17 February 2020. What is this motto? - ['United by Emotion'](#)

('United by Emotion' is the official motto for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics. It was officially released on 17 February 2020. It was narrated by Japanese tennis player Naomi Osaka)

**4)** Reserves of which rare metal have been discovered near Bengaluru, as was disclosed by the Atomic Minerals Directorate? – [Lithium](#)

(Reserves of lithium, used for making electric vehicle batteries, have been discovered in Mandya, about 100km from Bengaluru. Researchers at the Atomic Minerals Directorate have estimated lithium reserves of 14,100 tonnes in a small patch of land surveyed there. However, the reserves are not very significant if compared with 8.6 million tonnes in Chile, 2.8 million tonnes in Australia. India currently imports all its lithium needs. It imported lithium batteries worth \$1.2 billion in fiscal 2019)

**5)** The largest US automaker General Motors announced its decision to exit which three major countries? – [Australia](#), [New Zealand](#) and [Thailand](#)

(General Motors Co. on 17 February 2020 announced it will leave Australia, New Zealand and Thailand by year-end as it continues to exit poor-performing markets. The company will focus its resources on new technologies like self-driving cars and electric vehicles. GM will now get almost all of its profits from the US and China. The downsizing is part of a long-running strategy for GM since the Detroit-based company emerged from bankruptcy in 2009)



**6)** Which two players were named the joint-winners of the World Sportsman of the Year award at



Laureus Sporting Awards 2020? - [Lewis Hamilton and Lionel Messi](#)

(Six-time F1 world champion Lewis Hamilton (Britain) and six-time Ballon d'Or winner Lionel Messi (Argentina) were named the joint-winners of the World Sportsman of the Year award at Laureus Sporting Awards 2020 on 17 February 2020. Olympic champion gymnast Simone Biles won the World Sportswoman of the Year award for the third time 2019 Rugby World Cup winners South Africa were named the best team)

7) Google announced to end its 'Google Station' service to provide free Wi-Fi in Indian railway stations as well as globally. The project was launched by Google in India in which year? – [2015](#)

('Google Station' project was launched by Google in India in 2015 in partnership with Indian Railways and Railtel to provide free Wi-Fi to over 400 railway stations. Google India on 17 February 2020 announced that it will close this service as India now has among the cheapest mobile data per GB in the world. But Railtel announced that it will continue to provide free WiFi at over 5,600 railway stations across India even as Google is exiting the project)

21-29 February 2020 Current Affairs



1) The United States signed an agreement with the Islamic orthodox and militant organisation Taliban on 29 February 2020 that sets the stage to end America's longest war being fought in Afghanistan. This historic agreement was signed at which place? – [Doha](#)

(The agreement to withdraw American troops from Afghanistan was signed between the US Government and the Taliban on 29 February 2020 at Doha (Qatar). American troops are in Afghanistan since September 2001 terror attacks on the country. The war cost \$2 trillion and took the lives of more than 3,500 American and coalition troops and tens of thousands of Afghans)



2) US President Donald Trump completed his 2-day official visit to India on 25 February 2020. He is overall the .....American President to come on an official visit to India? – [Seventh](#)

(Dwight D Eisenhower's state visit to India in 1959 was the first by a US President to the country. Richard Nixon visited in 1969, Jimmy Carter in 1978 and George W Bush in 2006. Bill Clinton's 5-day trip to India in 2000 was the longest by a US President. Barack Obama made two official visits - in 2010 and 2015 and is the only US President to visit India twice. Donald Trump thus became the seventh US President to come to India. He attended the grand "Namaste Trump" event at Ahmedabad's Motera Stadium and also visited TajMahal at Agra with family members on 24 February 2020. He held bilateral talks with Indian PM NarendraModi later. He left for US on 25 February 2020)

3) Which country has surpassed China to become India's top trading partner during year 2018-19? – [United States](#)

(The US has surpassed China to become India's top trading partner, according to Commerce Ministry of India data. In 2018-19, the bilateral trade between the US and India stood at \$87.95 billion as compared to India's two-way commerce with China aggregated at \$87.07 billion during the period. America is one of the few countries with which India has a trade surplus)



4) Hosni Mubarak, who passed away on 25 February 2020, was a former ruler of which country? - [Egypt](#)

(Hosni Mubarak was the President of Egypt from 1981 to 2011 and he ruled the country in autocratic country. Formerly he had commanded Egypt's air force in his country's war against Israel in 1973. Mubarak was ousted by the military in 2011. He was jailed after found being guilty of complicity in killing

protesters during the Arab Spring but was freed in 2017. He passed away at the age of 91 on 25 February 2020)

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**5)** What is India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth for the October-December 19 quarter, as was disclosed on 28 February 2020? – **4.7%**

(India's Gross Domestic Product growth for the October-December quarter came in at 4.7%. It was lower than the upwardly revised 5.1% in the previous quarter (July-September 19). The growth rate for the April-June 19 quarter was revised to 5.6% from 5%. The growth in GDP for 2019-20 is estimated at 5%, the lowest in 11 years, as compared to 6.1% in 2018-19)



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**6)** Who was appointed the new Prime Minister of Malaysia after Mahathir Mohamad resigned from the post? - **Muhyiddin Yassin**

(Malaysia's King Abdullah on 29 February 2020 appointed former interior minister Muhyiddin Yassin as the country's new Prime Minister. Earlier 94-year-old Mahathir Mohamad resigned from the post that plunged the country into crisis. Yassin took oath as country's new Prime Minister on 1 March 2020)



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**7)** During February 2020 who became the second woman officer in the Indian Army to hold the rank of Lieutenant General? - **Madhuri Kanitkar**

(Maj. General Madhuri Kanitkar, the former dean of Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC), on 29 February 2020 was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General. She thus became the second woman officer in the Indian Army and first woman paediatrician to achieve the second-highest post in the force. Along with her husband Rajiv, who is also a lieutenant general, they became the first couple in the armed forces to achieve the rank. Punita Arora was the first woman to hold the Lieutenant General rank. It is worth mentioning that Air Marshal

Padmavathy Bandopadhyay was the first-ever officer of the Indian armed forces to reach the three-star rank)

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**8)** What is the name of Chandigarh Under-19 woman cricketer who picked all the 10 wickets in a Women's Under-19 one-day match to become the first-ever woman to take all 10 wickets in an innings? - **Kashvee Gautam**

(Kashvee Gautam, captain of Chandigarh Under-19 team on 24 February 2020 achieved what only two international players have done in cricket history. She picked all the 10 wickets in a Women's Under-19 One-Day Trophy match. In international cricket, only India's Anil Kumble and England's JC Laker have picked all 10 wickets)



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**9)** Which airline became the first Indian airline to take delivery and fly the Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner plane? – **Vistara**

(Vistara took delivery of its first wide-body aircraft Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner plane, becoming the first Indian airline to fly this aircraft. The aircraft will fly customers within India for a limited time from March before flying to long-haul international routes. Currently, Air India is only Indian airline to have long-haul flights in countries like Europe and the US)

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**10)** During February 2020 Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) ordered sweet shops to display date of manufacturing and 'best before' date for non-packaged/loose sweets. This rule will come into effect from which date? – **1 June 2020**

(Indian food regulator FSSAI has ordered that from 1 June 2020 the container or tray holding the sweets must display date of manufacturing and 'best before' date. This rule has been put into effect due to numerous complaints regarding the sale of stale and expired sweets)