



## Monthly Current Affair of February, 2020 in English

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**01-02-2020**

Seasoned diplomat Harsh Vardhan Shringla took charge as India's next foreign secretary, and asserted that he would work with India's partners on key issues, including ensuring an "undifferentiated and unambiguous" approach to terrorism.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed its Executive Director Janak Raj as member of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), the highest interest rate setting body.

Uttarakhand Tourism Development Council signed a pact with online travel firm MakeMyTrip to promote homestay facilities among tourists.

Chandauli district in Uttar Pradesh has topped the list of aspirational districts ranked by the government think tank Niti Aayog in December.

Technology giant Google announced a \$1 million grant to promote news literacy among Indians.

Assam has emerged as the top state in terms of best practices followed in budget formulation, followed by Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, says a survey by Transparency International.

Renowned Scottish club Rangers FC announced the signing of women's national team forward Bala Devi, a first in Indian football.

Thespian Sanjna Kapoor was awarded the French honour of Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres' (Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters) for her outstanding contribution to theatre.



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**02-02-2020**

Canada's Christine Sinclair became the all-time leading scorer in international football history as Canada crushed St. Kitts and Nevis 11-0 at the CONCACAF Olympic qualifying tournament in Brownsville, Texas.

Indian women's team captain Rani Rampal became the first-ever hockey player world-wide to win the prestigious "World Games Athlete of the Year" award.

Seasoned diplomat Vinay Mohan Kwatra has been appointed as India's next envoy to Nepal, the Ministry of External Affairs announced.

Tech giant Wipro Limited has announced that Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director Abidali Z Neemuchwala has decided to step down due to family commitments.

The commerce ministry has rolled back duty incentives to apparel and made-ups exports due to the introduction of taxes and levies rebate scheme RoSCTL.

Veteran basketball player P Mathew Satya Babu died. Babu was 79.

Bajaj Auto's long serving Chairman Rahul Bajaj will step down from executive role to become a non-executive director. However, he will continue as the Chairman of the company with effect from April 1, 2020.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) appointed seasoned media professional Anurag Dahiya, who launched Star Cricket, as its Chief Commercial Officer.

Tata Motors announced the retirement of Ralf Speth as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) at the end of his contract term in September.

Noted social activist and feminist writer Vidya Bal died. She was 84.

The UN has appointed India's Gita Sabharwal, who has over two decades of experience in peace building and social policy, as the Resident Coordinator in Thailand.

Noted Urdu poet Ajmal Sultanpuri died. He was 97.



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**03-02-2020**

Delegates from over 60 countries including China, Russia, the UK and South Korea will participate in the upcoming DefExpo, India's mega defence exhibition, which is being held in Lucknow from February 5-9.

Former India cricketers Rudra Pratap Singh, Madan Lal and Sulkashana Naik were appointed members of the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) by the BCCI.

Wrestler Ravinder Kumar, who won a silver medal at the Under-23 World Championships last year, has tested positive for a prohibited substance and he has been banned for four years.

Eminent novelist and short storyteller Dr Dalip Kaur Tiwana died in Mohali. She was 84.

Economic Survey 2019-20 has projected economic growth at 6 to 6.5 per cent in the Next financial year

The UK has officially left the European Union membership. Most EU laws will continue to be in force until 31st December.

Seasoned diplomat Ajay Bisaria was appointed High Commissioner to Canada, a posting considered important in view of India's close ties with the North American country.

State-owned Bank of Baroda has signed a pact with Care Ratings to assess credit quality of its small and medium enterprises (SME) customers.

Argentina and Barcelona forward Lionel Messi has become the first player in the Spanish football history to record 500 wins.

India's first-ever chocolate museum is located in Tamil Nadu's Ooty and run by a local family.



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**04-02-2020**

Decorated para-athlete and India's lone woman Paralympic medallist Deepa Malik has been elected as president of the Paralympic Committee of India though the results of the elections are subject to a pending case in the Delhi High Court.

The government announced removal of 20 per cent import duty on solar cells and panels in the Budget, with immediate effect.

While presenting the Union Budget 2020-21, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that India will host G-20 Summit in 2022 in a bid to drive global economic agenda.

Sofia Kenin won her first ever Grand Slam title by beating Garbine Muguruza 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 in the Australian Open final.

Eminent Punjabi writer and Sahitya Akademi Awardee Jaswant Singh Kanwal died in his native village in Moga district. He was 101.

Seasoned diplomat Gopal Baglay was appointed India's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka.

Maldives was officially readmitted to the Commonwealth more than three years after the Indian Ocean archipelago nation quit the organisation over criticism of its human rights record.

Indian captain Virat Kohli continued to top the ICC Test batsmen's ranking but his deputy Ajinkya Rahane slipped a place to ninth spot.

During her Union Budget 2020-21 speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a new scheme 'NIRVIK' for exporters.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that the government will build 100 new airports by 2024 to support the regional connectivity scheme UDAN.



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**05-02-2020**

In tennis, Novak Djokovic of Serbia won his record 8th men's singles title at the Australian Open at Rod Laver Arena in Melbourne. He defeated Australian Open finalist Dominic Thiem 6-4, 4-6, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 for the first time.

India's best woman singles player Ankita Raina won her first ITF singles title of the season and 10th of her career when she beat Chloe Paquet in the summit clash of the USD 25000 event in Nonthaburi, Thailand.

Former Nizamabad MP and one of the protagonists of the Telangana statehood movement M Narayana Reddy died. He was 89.

Sixth-seed Harmeet Desai defeated fourth-seed Manav Thakkar 4-3 in the men's singles final to claim his maiden title at the 81st National Table Tennis Championships.

Anirban Dasgupta has taken charge as the Director Projects & Business Planning of Steel Authority of India Limited on February, 1, 2020.

The flame-throated bulbul, also called the Rubigula, was chosen as the mascot of the 36th National Games to be held in Goa because it is the state bird.

Eminent Odia poet Rabi Singh died. He was 89.

Noted yesteryear actor Waheeda Rehman was conferred the Madhya Pradesh government's National Kishore Kumar Samman-2018.

Indian paceman Jasprit Bumrah became the first bowler in Twenty20 International cricket to bowl seven maiden overs.

WeWork has appointed real estate veteran Sandeep Mathrani as its new chief executive.



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**06-02-2020**

The central government has approved a nearly Rs 6,000-crore multi-purpose project to provide uninterrupted water for irrigation to farmers in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district and to produce power.

Youth Olympic champion Jeremy Lalrinnunga was not at his best but the teenager still bettered his clean and jerk record to clinch the men's 67kg title in the 72nd men's and 35th women's Senior National Weightlifting Championships.

Dan Mousley scored a century before Lewis Goldsworthy picked up a five-wicket haul as England lifted the ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup Plate Trophy after beating Sri Lanka by a comprehensive 152 runs.

Amitabh Bhatt has taken over as Chief Executive Officer of Bengaluru-headquartered defence PSU, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's Bangalore Complex.

Cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar has been shortlisted as one among five contenders for the greatest Laureus Sporting Moment 2000-2020 Award.

Star wrestler Vinesh Phogat, badminton queen PV Sindhu and boxing great MC Mary Kom, Sprinter Dutee Chand and para-badminton player Manasi Joshi will compete for the inaugural BBC Indian sportswoman of the year award.

Two lawmakers in Sweden have nominated Swedish teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg for the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize.

KL Rahul reaped rewards for his stellar all-round show in India's 5-0 drubbing of New Zealand as he rose to a career-best second position in the ICC T20 Rankings.



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**07-02-2020**

Daniel arap Moi, a former schoolteacher who became Kenya's longest-serving president and presided over years of repression and economic turmoil fueled by runaway corruption, has died. He was 95.

India and Norway signed a total of four memorandum of understanding (MoUs) in the field of research and higher education.

Olympic medal hopeful and former world champion Mirabai Chanu bettered her own national record by lifting a total of 203kg to win the 49kg gold in the National Weightlifting Championships.

Pramod Kumar Singh has been appointed as wholetime member (law), Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

Teen star Manu Bhaker fired her way to double gold, coming up trumps in both the women's 25m pistol and junior 25m pistol T2 trials at the National Shooting Trials for rifle and pistol disciplines.

Insurance cover on bank deposits has been increased to Rs 5 lakh from Rs 1 lakh effective, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said in a statement.

In order to safeguard women and young women, Uttarakhand Police has taken another concrete step to start a women's WhatsApp helpline service.

Sri Lanka dropped the rendering of the Tamil-version of the national anthem from its Independence Day ceremony for the first time since 2016.

Congress MLA and former Assam Assembly speaker Pranab Gogoi died. He was 84.



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**08-02-2020**

State-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC) signed first term contract for importing Russian crude oil as the world's third largest energy consumer looks to diversify its sources away from the volatile Middle East.

The Union Cabinet gave its approval to confer the status of Institution of National Importance (INI) to five Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs).

Indian lifter Rakhi Halder to clinch the 64kg gold in the 72nd Men's and 35th Senior Women's National Weightlifting Championships.

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has agreed in principle to hold the 2022 National Games in Bengal.

During the Defense Expo-2020, an MoU was signed between Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Israel's Elbit Systems Istar Division. This MOU has been carried out to assess the feasibility of jointly developing UAVs.

JSW Steel announced Rishabh Pant as the as their brand ambassador.

Hollywood legend Kirk Douglas passed away at the age of 103.

Paytm has launched an All-in-One Android POS (point of sale) device that would allow small merchants to accept payments through all UPI based apps, debit and credit cards and cash.





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**09-02-2020**

The Uttarakhand government has cleared the design of a glass floor suspension bridge, the first of its kind in the country, to be built across Ganga river in Rishikesh as an alternative to the iconic Lakshman Jhula which was closed last year.

Fourteen agreements were inked between Russian defence majors and Indian military firms providing for joint production of spare parts of a number of military platforms and weapon systems.

Telecom operator Tata Tele services said the department of telecom (DoT) has approved the merger of its consumer mobile business with Bharti Airtel.

Commonwealth Games silver medallist Pardeep Singh produced his personal best in the snatch event to win the men's 102kg gold in the National Weightlifting Championships.

Britain has appointed Philip Barton as its new High Commissioner to India, in succession to Dominic Asquith.

Celebrated Odia and English writer Manoj Das to receive the much coveted Mystic Kalinga Literary Award (Indian and Global Languages), announced organisers of Mystic Kalinga Festival (MKF).

HAL received the modification document from the Director General of Civil Aviation for its Dornier-228 civil aircraft after reducing its gross weight below 5,700 kg.

Former BCCI president late Jagmohan Dalmiya's son Avishek became the youngest president of Cricket Association Bengal after being elected unopposed.



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**10-02-2020**

Global aerospace and technology company Paramount Group and leading Indian industrial group Bharat Forge (BFL) announced the signing of a strategic, high-level collaboration agreement to set up a joint venture to join technologies, capabilities and expertise in the industrialisation and indigenisation of defence and aerospace systems.

The state government has appointed senior lawyer of the Jharkhand High Court Rajeev Ranjan as the new Advocate General of the state.

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has given approval to WhatsApp to launch its UPI-based payments service WhatsApp Pay in a phased manner.

Low-cost carrier SpiceJet has appointed Shilpa Bhatia as its new chief commercial officer.

Kerala will ban sale of compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) and filament light bulbs across the state from November 1, 2020, announced Finance Minister Thomas Isaac.

The RBI will roll out a scoring system from July, called the Digital Payments Index (DPI), to assess the performance of the digital payments industry on key operating parameters.

State-owned Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) and software provider, Tech Mahindra announced a partnership to design and build digital solutions for aerospace and defense applications.



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**11-02-2020**

An Indian-American woman Manga Anantatmula, who raised her voice against alleged discrimination in admission of Asians in IV League schools, has announced that she will run for US House of Representatives, saying she wants to be a “voice, not a noise” for the community particularly the Hindus in the US.

Chief national badminton coach Pullela Gopichand has received an honourable mention in the male category of the prestigious 2019 International Olympic Committee’s Coaches Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of the role he played in the development of the game in the country.

P Parameswaran, one of the senior-most ‘pracharaks’ of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and former leader of the erstwhile Bharatiya Jana Sangh, passed away. He was 91.

Ankita Raina won her third title when she triumphed in the final of the USD 25000 ITF women’s doubles event with partner Bibiane Schoofs.

Sydney Sixers won their second T20 Big Bash League title as they beat Melbourne Stars by 19 runs in a final at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The Marine Products Export Development Authority launched a certification system ‘Shaphari’ for aquaculture that it claimed guarantees quality shrimp Post Larvae (PL) and authenticates their quality in the highly competitive international market.

Homegrown pharma firm Cipla announced the acquisition of nutrition products portfolio from Wanbury Ltd. The company has acquired 4 brands namely CPink, CDense, Productiv and Foline to further strengthen its presence in women’s health portfolio.

Australia were presented with the ICC Women’s Championship trophy, which they have retained by taking a winning lead in the eight-team ODI competition played from 2017 to 2020.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy inaugurated the first ‘Disha Police Station’ in Rajamahendravaram city in East Godavari district to exclusively deal with crime against women and children.

The Central government has appointed Mahmood Ahmed, Deputy Director General of the Licensing Finance Assessment (LFA), Department of Telecom as its nominee director on the board of MTNL, a PSU under the ministry.



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**12-02-2020**

Director Bong Joon Ho scripted history by becoming the first Asian and South Korean filmmaker to bag the best director Oscar for his sensational class satire "Parasite" at the 92nd Academy Awards.

Bangladesh beat India by three wickets to win maiden ICC U-19 World Cup cricket title by Duckworth-Lewis method in South Africa.

Haryana thrashed Sports Authority of India (SAI) 6-0 to win the 10th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2020 (A Division) title.

Well-known Hindi litterateur and Padma Shri awardee Giriraj Kishore passed away. He was 83.

A new cricket stadium of international standards was inaugurated by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami.

HDFC Bank has appointed Anjani Rathor as its chief digital officer (CDO).

Bengaluru Raptors become the first team to win two PBL titles.

Private life insurer HDFC Life launched its latest brand campaign – BounceBack to Success.

Laura Dern won the Best Supporting Actress Oscar for her performance in the film 'Marriage Story' at the 92nd Academy Awards.



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**13-02-2020**

The US has approved the sale of an Integrated Air Defence Weapon System to India for an estimated cost of \$1.867 billion to modernise its armed forces and to expand its existing air defense architecture to counter threats posed by air attack.

EY, the global professional services organisation, will felicitate Adi Godrej, chairman of the Godrej group, with the Lifetime Achievement Award at its 21st Entrepreneur of the Year - India (EOY) 2019 Awards.

Justice Sanjeeb Kumar Panigrahi took oath as a new judge of the Orissa High Court.

The Indian men's team mid-fielder Vivek Sagar Prasad was named as 2019's rising star of the year by the International Hockey Federation (FIH).

Waqar Hasan, the last surviving member of Pakistan's first Test side that toured India in 1952, died. He was 87.

The Competition Commission has approved Mahindra & Mahindra's acquisition of majority stake in a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ford Motor Co, which will create a joint venture in the country.

With an emphasis on counter-terrorist operations in urban and semi-urban areas, the armies of India and the UK will conduct a joint military exercise at Salisbury Plains from February 13 to February 26.

The Andhra Pradesh government signed a "path-breaking" memoranda of understanding with 11 premier agricultural institutions in the country to usher in revolutionary changes in the sector through technology and knowledge transfer to farmers in the state.



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**14-02-2020**

Facebook launched its 'We Think Digital' programme, under which the social media giant will provide digital literacy training to 1 lakh women across seven states, including Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar.

Indian women's hockey team striker Lalremsiami has been adjudged the FIH Rising Star of the Year 2019.

Tata Global Beverages Ltd has been renamed as Tata Consumer Products Ltd to spearhead FMCG ambitions of the \$ 113-billion Tata group.

The world-famous ski destination Gulmarg in Jammu and Kashmir is all set to host a five-day National Winter Games from March 7 under the Khelo India program.

Sanjev Razdan was appointed as the chairman and managing director of Pawan Hans Ltd (PHL).

Italian super bike maker Ducati has appointed Bipul Chandra as the new Managing Director of its India operations.

Pakistan's Babar Azam became the only player to be among the top five in ICC rankings across all formats.

Martin Guptill surpassed former player Nathan Astle to become the top scorer as an opener for New Zealand in ODI cricket.



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**15-02-2020**

Ajinkya Jadhav notched up a hat-trick to propel Indian Navy to a fluent 4-1 win against South Central Railway (SCR) in the final and clinch their maiden triumph in All India Bombay Gold Cup hockey championship.

The Cabinet has given its nod to Major Ports Authority Bill that will replace a 1963 law governing country's 12 major ports.

Retail inflation jumped to over five-and-a-half-year high of 7.59 per cent in January on persistently high prices of vegetables, pulses and protein-rich meat and fish.

Renowned fashion designer Wendell Rodricks died in Colvale village in Goa. He was 59.

The Department of Military Affairs, headed by Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat, will have three joint secretaries from the Army, Navy and the Air Force.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) elected Atul Kumar Gupta as its new president.

Ajay Patel will succeed P R Venketrama Raja as the new president of the All India Chess Federation (AICF) after being elected unopposed along with incumbent secretary Bharat Singh Chauhan.

A new educational institution building built with Indian assistance for students from the economically weaker sections was inaugurated in a remote part of western Nepal.

The Trustees of Tata Trusts have appointed Srinath Narasimhan as the Chief Executive of the Trusts with effect from April 1, 2020.

Industry body Nasscom has projected a revenue growth of 7.7 per cent at USD 191 billion for the IT sector in the ongoing fiscal.



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**16-02-2020**

National men's team captain Manpreet Singh became the first Indian to win the International Hockey Federation's (FIH) Player of the Year award, capping a memorable 2019 season in which he led the side to Olympic qualification.

Environmentalist R K Pachauri, a former TERI chief under whose chairmanship the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007, passed away.

Senior IAS officer Debasish Panda was appointed as the new finance secretary.

Senior bureaucrat Rajiv Bansal was appointed as the chairman and managing director (CMD) of Air India.

Indian-origin politician Rishi Sunak was appointed the UK's new finance minister by Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

The Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra, a cultural centre reflecting India's connect with its diaspora, was renamed Sushma Swaraj Bhavan.

The Foreign Service Institute, a renowned institution where diplomats are trained, has been renamed as Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service.

Hero Electric announced appointment of Piyush Prasad as its national business head.





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**17-02-2020**

Inflation based on wholesale prices increased to 3.1 percent in January from 2.59 percent in the previous month. This increase is due to the increase in the prices of food items like onions and potatoes.

Lakhimpur has become the first tehsil in Uttar Pradesh to receive ISO:14001 certification.

Union transport minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the first inter-city electric bus service, between Mumbai and Pune.

Wadia group-promoted GoAir has appointed Vinay Dube as the airline's Chief Executive Officer.

India and Portugal exchanged 14 agreements and understandings in a number of key areas, including maritime, intellectual property rights, aerospace and scientific research.

Gokulam Kerala were crowned champions of the Hero Indian Women's League after a dramatic 3-2 victory over Kangchup Road Young Physical and Sports Association (KRYPHSA) FC in the final in Bengaluru.

Adani Group inked agreements with the Airports Authority of India (AAI) for the management, operations and development of Ahmedabad, Mangaluru and Lucknow airports.

India star Smriti Mandhana rose three rungs to fourth but Jemimah Rodrigues dropped to seventh in the latest ICC women's T20 International rankings for batters.



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**18-02-2020**

India's female race walker Bhawna Jat has earned a quota for Tokyo Olympics Games in 20 km Race Walk event after setting a new national record at the National Race Walk Championships.

Arvind Kejriwal took oath for the third successive time as chief minister of Delhi.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 50 development projects worth over 1,200 crore rupees at Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.

Veteran Bollywood filmmaker Ramesh Sippy was conferred with the lifetime achievement honour at the 65th Amazon Filmfare Awards 2020.

The World Health Organization has nominated Haridwar-based Dev Sanskriti Vishwa Vidyalaya vice-chancellor, Chinmay Pandya, as its yoga expert.

The country's squash aces reigned supreme in the 77th Senior National Championship at the ISA courts, claiming their 18th and 13th titles respectively.

The Reserve Bank of India's central board, in its meeting held, decided to change the central bank's financial year to April-March, aligning it with the government's.

The Income Tax Department has said that Permanent Account Number (PAN) will become inoperative if it's not linked with Aadhaar by March 31, 2020.

Indian Railways will operate a new train based on Ramayana theme which will take pilgrims to locations associated with Lord Rama.



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**19-02-2020**

Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated India Pavilion at GulFood 2020, Dubai, and held discussions with food companies over the potential of business opportunities in India.

No. 47 Squadron of Indian Air Force currently stationed at AF Station, Adampur, completed 60 years of its glorious service to the nation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a 63-foot tall statue of former Bhartiya Jana Sangh leader Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya in Varanasi.

India and Norway have formed joint working groups on Blue economy with sustainable development.

Australia's James Duckworth registered a straight-set win over Benjamin Bonzi of France in the finals to lift the USD 162,500 Bengaluru Open title.

Veteran film and theatre actor Lynn Cohen passed away at the age of 86.

Armand Duplantis of Sweden has set a new pole vault world record of 6.18 metres at the World Athletics Glasgow Indoor Grand Prix.

With effect from 03 February to 16 February 2020, Armies of India and Bangladesh participated in joint military exercise SAMPRITI-IX at Umroi, Meghalaya.



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**20-02-2020**

The Government of India and the World Bank signed a \$450 million loan agreement to support the national programme to arrest the country's depleting groundwater levels and strengthen groundwater institutions.

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, laid the foundation stone/inaugurated various developmental projects of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu at function organised in Daman.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 13th Conference of Parties on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals at Gandhinagar through video conferencing.

India, which is hosting the 13th Conference of Parties to the Convention of Migratory Species and Wild Animals, officially took over its Presidency for the next three years.

Moody's Investors Service slashed India's growth forecast to 5.4 percent for 2020 from 6.6 percent projected earlier on slower than expected economic recovery.

India skipper Virat Kohli slipped to the 10th position but KL Rahul and Rohit Sharma remained static at the second and 11th place respectively in the latest ICC T20I rankings released.

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) announced India as the hosts for next year's junior men's World Cup.

The United Arab Emirates has issued a licence for a reactor at its Barakah nuclear power plant, the first in the Arab world, hailing a "historic moment".

India claimed five silver and six bronze medals at the ongoing 2020 Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Nikita Pearl Waligwa, who starred in the 2016 sports drama "Queen of Katwe", has died. She was 15.

World rapid champion Koneru Humpy claimed her title by emerging triumphant at the Cairns Cup chess tournament following a draw against compatriot Dronavalli Harika in the ninth and final round.



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**21-02-2020**

Indian-born British businessman, Sanjeev Gupta-led GFG Alliance completed the strategic acquisition of Adhunik Metaliks Ltd (Adhunik) and Zion Steel in a Rs 425 crore cash deal, making its entry in the Indian market.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar inaugurated the Indian pavilion at the Berlin International Film Festival. This festival will be held from February 20 to March 1, 2020.

The 15th Finance Commission has appointed ITC Chairman and Managing Director Sanjiv Puri as the head of an eight-member panel on agriculture exports.

Ashraf Ghani has secured a second term as president of Afghanistan.

Pakistan conducted a successful flight test of the air-launched nuclear-capable cruise missile Ra'ad-II with a range of 600 km on Tuesday, significantly boosting the military's "deterrence capability" on land and at sea.

The sixth edition of the Roland-Garros Junior Wild Card Series will be held at the clay courts of the Delhi Lawn Tennis Association (DLTA) from February 24-26 with four-time Grand Slam winner Mary Pierce as event ambassador.

Navi Mumbai will host the final of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup on November 21.

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) has received the Asian Football Confederation's "Grassroots Charter Bronze Level" membership which will allow the national body to promote its basic-level events as AFC recognised.

Germany's 19-year-old Formula Three driver Sophia Flörsch won Comeback of the Year award at Laureus Sporting Awards 2020.

Indian billionaire BR Shetty has resigned as the Co-Chairman of UAE's biggest hospital operator NMC Health, which he founded in 1975.



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**22-02-2020**

The government approved signing of updated Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive (AIFMD) pact between markets regulator Sebi and the UK's Financial Conduct Authority after Britain's exit from the European Union.

Mahant Nritya Gopal Das elected as the president of Ram Mandir Trust; Nripendra Misra to head the temple construction committee.

Union Cabinet approved Assisted Reproductive Technology Regulation Bill for the welfare of Women in the Country.

The Union Cabinet approved the constitution of the 22nd Law Commission which advises the government on complex legal issues.

UK Home Secretary Priti Patel unveiled a new points-based visa system to attract the "brightest and the best" from the world, including from India, and to reduce the number of cheap and low-skilled workers coming to the country.

FC Goa became the first team from the country to qualify for the group stage of the AFC Champions League, the continent's top-tier club competition, after beating Jamshedpur FC 5-0 in an Indian Super League match.

A state-of-the-art badminton academy and stadium named after Olympic silver medallist P V Sindhu is to be set up in Chennai.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided to set up ten thousand new Farmer Producer Organisations (FPO) to create over 1.5 lakh jobs in rural India.

Veteran Kannada actress Kishori Ballal passed away at the age of 82 in Bengaluru.



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**23-02-2020**

India ranked 77th on a sustainability index that takes into account per capital carbon emissions and ability of children in a nation to live healthy lives and secures 131st spot on a flourishing ranking that measures the best chance at survival and well-being for children, according to a UN-backed report.

Sanjay Kothari, the Secretary to the President, has been selected as the new Chief Vigilance Commissioner by a high-powered committee headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

World champion shuttler P.V. Sindhu won the ESPN's 'Female Sportsperson of the Year' award for a third consecutive time while young shooter Saurabh Chaudhary bagged the honour in the male category.

Tata Realty and Infrastructure Ltd (TRIL), a subsidiary of Tata Sons, announced the appointment of Ritesh Sachdev as senior vice-president and head (commercial leasing and asset management).

External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar inaugurated the India Pavilion at the Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) 2020.

India's iconic jeanswear brand Flying Machine has signed up Kartik Aaryan as its new brand ambassador.

India will host the 2022 AFC Women's Asian Cup.

The Pakistan Cricket Board suspended Umar Akmal with immediate effect, pending an anti-corruption investigation against the batsman.



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**24-02-2020**

Fitch Ratings has affirmed Bharti Airtel Limited's Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'BBB-' and senior unsecured rating 'BBB-' and the Outlook on the IDR is Stable.

Axis Bank Ltd has signed a confidentiality and exclusivity arrangement to explore the possibility of the Bank entering into a long-term strategic partnership with Max Life.

Sarita Mor eked out a 3-2 win over Battsetseg Atlantsetseg of Mongolia in the women's 59 kg final to clinch the gold medal.

Indian wrestler Pinki secured the coveted gold medal after beating Mongolia's Dulguun Bolormaa in the women's 55kg final at the Asian Championships in Delhi.

Rajasthan Solar Park Development Company Ltd (RSDCL) and NTPC signed an agreement to develop 925 MW capacity solar park at Nokh in Rajasthan's Jaisalmer district.

Ansal Properties & Infrastructure Ltd CEO & whole time director Yogesh Gauba has resigned with immediate effect due to health reasons.

Great Britain women's field hockey captain Alex Danson-Bennett announced her retirement from the sport.

Ahmer Khan, Indian freelance reporter, was named the winner of the 2019 Agence France-Presse Kate Webb Prize.





## Monthly Current Affair of February, 2020 in English

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**25-02-2020**

Rio Olympics bronze medallist wrestler Sakshi Malik won silver in the 65kg category and Asian Games gold medallist Vinesh Phogat won bronze in 53kg in the Asian Championships in New Delhi.

Veteran Indian left-arm spinner Pragyan Ojha announced retirement from international and first-class cricket with immediate effect.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh laid the foundation stone for construction of the Army headquarter's new building in Delhi Cantonment.

Hrithik Roshan won the Best Actor award for his performance in 'Super 30' at the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards.

The Department of Telecom (DoT) approved the merger of the country's largest mobile tower company Indus Towers with Bharti Infratel.

Competition Commission of India has given approval for GMR group's proposed 49 per cent stake sale in its airport business to France's Groupe ADP.

Three-time Lok Sabha member and noted educationist Krishna Bose, passed away. She was 89.

The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) unveiled a statue of football legend Pele at its headquarters to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the team's third World Cup triumph of 1970.

Australian spinner Ashton Agar has become the first-ever left-arm bowler to take a T20I hat-trick.

Russia will host the new format of the International Boxing Association Team World Cup later this year.



## Monthly Current Affair of February, 2020 in English

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**26-02-2020**

New Zealand's tallest cricketer Kyle Jamieson has equalled former Australia captain Michael Clarke's world record for slamming most number of sixes in his first-ever Test innings.

The Pakistan government would confer honorary citizenship on former West Indian captain Darren Sammy for his role in bringing international cricket back to the country.

Former India footballer Ashoke Chatterjee passed away. He was 78.

Rajlaxmi Singh Deo and M V Sriram were elected as the president and secretary general of the Rowing Federation of India for a five-year term.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the first-ever Khelo India University Games at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium.

India's Ravi Dahiya claimed the gold medal in 57kg men's freestyle category at the Asian Wrestling Championship.

Astronomers have identified molecular oxygen in a galaxy outside Milky Way for the first time.

Didier Casimiro resigned from the board of Indian refiner Nayara Energy, part-owned by Russian state oil major Rosneft.

The newly-formed union territory of Jammu and Kashmir inked Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) worth over Rs 2,100 crore during its investment summit roadshow.



## Monthly Current Affair of February, 2020 in English

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**27-02-2020**

India's 13-year old Grandmaster D Gukesh emerged champion in the 34th Cannes Open in Cannes, France, beating Harutyun Bargseghyan of the host nation in the final round to end with 7.5 points.

Sudanese president has appointed Minister of Defense Awad Ibn Oaf as first vice president of the country.

Jyotika Dutta of Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, won the epee gold in the fencing competition of the inaugural Khelo India University Games.

A 28 per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) will be levied on lotteries from March 1.

The US has surpassed China to become India's top trading partner, showing greater economic ties between the two countries.

Adline Castelino has been crowned as the winner of LIVA Miss Diva Universe 2020 competition.

Serbia's Ognjen Stojanovic and Barbara Riveros of Chile emerged victorious in the men's and women's sections respectively in the NTT ASTC Triathlon Asian Cup.

Indian golfer Honey Baisoya earned an Asian Tour card by finishing T-23 in the gruelling five-round 2020 Asian Tour Qualifying School.

India's Jitender Kumar settled for the silver medal after losing to Kazakhstan's defending champion Daniyar Kaisanov in the 74kg final of the Asian Wrestling Championships.

Ansal Yadav claimed the men's singles title while seventh seed Ira Sharma caused an upset to emerge the women's singles champion at the All India Senior Ranking Badminton Tournament.



## Monthly Current Affair of February, 2020 in English

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**28-02-2020**

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy launched yet another scheme named after himself, called 'Jagananna Vasthi Deevena', under which a financial assistance of Rs 2,300 crore would be provided to students pursuing various post- intermediate courses to meet hostel and mess expenses.

Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh handed over to the CISF the trophy for the ""best marching contingent"" amongst CAPFs and other auxiliary squads during the Republic Day parade this year.

Budding squash player Yash Fadte from Goa has won the prestigious French Junior Open.

Piramal Enterprises' consumer products division has roped in former captain of the Indian cricket team, Sourav Ganguly, as the brand ambassador for its antacid brand Polycrol.

India will host the Commonwealth shooting and archery championships in January 2022 and the medals from the two events will be counted for "ranking of competing nations" at the Birmingham Games.

IT company Tech Mahindra has signed an agreement to acquire 100 per cent stake in US-based Zen3 Infosolutions for \$64 million (Rs 460 crore) in an all-cash deal.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has banned Oman player Yousuf Abdulrahim Al Balushi from all forms of cricket for seven years for his involvement in trying to fix matches.

The government formally announced the constitution of the 22nd Law Commission.

HCL Infosystems said its Managing Director Raghavan Rangarajan has resigned due to personal reasons.



## Monthly Current Affair of February, 2020 in English

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**29-02-2020**

Delhi topped the list of most polluted capital cities in the world in 2019. According to the World Air Quality Report 2019 compiled by IQAir Air Visual, 21 of the world's 30 most polluted cities are in India.

India and the United States today finalized defence deals worth three billion dollars and signed three agreements, including in health and oil sectors.

Madhya Pradesh has become the first state in the country to launch the unified vehicle registration card.

TransUnion Cibil, the largest credit information bureau, appointed Rajesh Kumar of HDFC Bank as its new managing director and chief executive.

Hosni Mubarak, the former Egyptian president who ruled the country from 1981 until the revolution of 2011, has died at the age of 91.

Mastercard is naming an insider as its new CEO. Michael Miebach, who is currently the company's chief product officer, will takeover for CEO Ajay Banga to start 2021.

Indian-origin MP Suella Braverman sworn in as the United Kingdom's Attorney General at a ceremony at the Royal Courts of Justice in London.