CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. EIU'S GLOBAL DEMOCRACY INDEX: INDIA SLIPS 10 SPOTS TO 51ST RANK, NORWAY TOPS THE LIST-

- The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) has recently released a global democracy index for the year 2019.
- India has slipped 10 ranks to 51st position in this index, this index provides an overall view of the status of democracy among 167 countries.
- The global democracy index helps business leaders to empower them to work with confidence and to prepare for more opportunities.
- Norway is on the top of the EIU's democracy index while Pakistan is on 108th rank.

Democracy-

Democracy is a form of government in which the people have the authority to choose their governing legislation.

2. UNITED NATIONS WORLD TOURISM ORGANISATION (UNWTO) HAS RELEASED A REPORT TITLED 'WORLD TOURISM BAROMETER'-

- As per the report the international tourist arrivals in 2019 increased by over 4% (3.8% exact value) in 2019 and reached 1.5 billion.
- Which is 54 million more than 2018, based on the data collected from reports around the world.
- The middle east region (+8%) led growth in arrivals, followed by Asia and Pacific region (+5%).
- Europe had a growth of 4% in international tourist arrivals and had 743 million visitors.

World Tourism Organisation (WTO)-

WTO is responsible for promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.

Headquarters- Madrid, Spain.
Formation- 1 November 1974.
Secretary General- Zurab Pololikashvili.

3. INDIA WILL ALWAYS REMAIN GRATEFUL TO NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE, SAYS PM NARENDRA MODI ON FREEDOM FIGHTER'S 123RD BIRTH ANNIVERSARY-

- Subhas Chandra Bose was born on 23rd January 1897, in Cuttack, Orissa Division, Bengal Province, to Prabhavati Dutt Bose and Janakinath Bose.
- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose (23 January 1897 – 18 August 1945) is one of the most celebrated freedom fighters of India.
- Bose is credited with the very famous slogan, "Give me blood, and I shall give you freedom!" as well as "Jai Hind".

4. GOVERNMENT APPROVES UP TO 100 PER CENT FDI IN BHARTI AIRTEL-

- The telecom department has approved raising the foreign direct investment (FDI) limit in Bharti Airtel to 100% from an earlier 49%, a provision that can help the telco draw more overseas funds.

- "Bharti Airtel has received the approval from the Department of Telecommunications, for increasing the limit of foreign investment up to 100% of the paid-up capital.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also given the approval to Bharti Airtel for allowing foreign investors to hold up to 74 per cent stake in the company.

Department of Telecommunications-

❖ The Department of Telecommunications, abbreviated to DoT, is a department of the [Ministry of Communications] of the executive branch of the [Government of India].

Headquarters location- New Delhi

Minister responsible- Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre, Minister of State (independent charge) for Communications

5. GUJARAT REPLACES WEST BENGAL TO TOP 'STAR STATES' RANKING-

- Gujarat has topped the SKOCH State of Governance 2019 ranking, replacing 2018 leader West Bengal.
- Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu were the top five "Star States", according to the report.
- "The states where projects have performed the best in terms of rankings across different parameters have been classified as STARS", the report added.

Gujarat-

Capital- Gandhinagar

Governor- Acharya Devvrat

Chief minister- Vijay Rupani

6. 3RD EDITION OF KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES 2020 CONCLUDED IN GUWAHATI, ASSAM-

- The 3rd edition of Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) 2020 was held at Karmabir Nabin Chandra Bordoloi Indoor Stadium in Guwahati, Assam.
- Vijay the Tiger and Jaya the Black buck were the mascots of the tournament.
- Maharashtra clinched Khelo India Youth Games 2020 champions trophy with a collection of 256 medals (78 gold, 77 silver and 101 bronze).
- Organized by Ministry for Youth Affairs and Sports & conducted in partnership with the School Games Federation of India (SGFI), Indian Olympic Association (IOA), and Assam State government.

7. WORLD ARCHERY CONDITIONALLY LIFTS SUSPENSION ON INDIA-

- World Archery has conditionally lifted the suspension of the Archery Association of India following elections in New Delhi on 18 January.
- Indian archers are allowed to compete in World Archery events as of 23 January 2020.
- The Archery Association of India had been suspended since 5 August 2019, with Indian athletes only allowed to compete under a neutral flag at events that directly affected their qualification chances for the Olympics.

World Archery Federation-

❖ It is the governing body of the sport of archery. It is based in Lausanne, Switzerland.

❖ It is composed of 156 national federations and other archery associations, and is recognised by the International Olympic Committee.