



SSC & RAILWAYS WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS (22-31ST OCTOBER)

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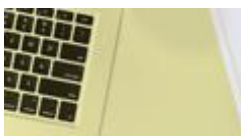
Weekly One Liner Updates
22 -31st October 2018

Dear readers,

Weekly One Liner Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the fourth week (22-31st) of October 2018. This file is important for **SSC and railways exams**.

Important News - India

1. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu embarked on a seven-day visit to three South African countries ___**Botswana, Zimbabwe and Malawi**.
2. President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated a three-day 'Vishwa Shanti Ahimsa Sammelan' in ___**Maharashtra**.
Note:
 - The conference has been organised by Bhagwan Rishabhdev Murti Nirmaan Samiti.
 - President Kovind also released a book, titled 'Sarvoccha Digambar Jain Pratima', on the occasion.
 - The award carries a cash prize of 11 lakh rupees, a memento and a citation.
3. The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated the National Police Memorial to the nation on ___ **Police Commemoration Day**.
Note:
 - Every year, 21st October is observed as the Police Commemoration Day in memory of the 10 policemen killed in an ambush by Chinese troops in 1959 in Ladakh's Hot Spring area.
4. NITI Aayog has organized the 4th edition of NITI Lecture Series in ___ **New Delhi**.
Note:
 - The theme this year is "AI for ALL: Leveraging Artificial Intelligence for Inclusive Growth".
5. A railway station will be built inside a tunnel at a height of 3,000 metres, on the strategic Bilaspur-Manali-Leh line close to the ___**Sino-India border**.
Note:
 - The Keylong station in Himachal Pradesh will be the first on the railway network to be inside a tunnel, Once completed.
 - Keylong (26 km from Manali) is the administrative centre of Lahaul and Spiti district, and 120 km from the Indo-Tibetan border.
6. Sanjay Leela Bhansali's magnum opus has been officially selected for 2018 Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival ___**Padmaavat**.
Note:
 - The film is Bhansali's re-imagining of the story of Queen Padmavati, her king consort Maha Rawal Ratan Singh and Sultan Alauddin Khilji.
 - Actors Deepika Padukone, Shahid Kapoor and Ranveer Singh featured in the movie, which was 2018's first blockbuster.
7. India's longest river bridge will be built across the Brahmaputra, connecting ___**Dhubri (Assam) to Phulbari (Meghalaya)**.
Note:
 - The 19.3 km (four-lane bridge) will be built by 2026-27, cut road travel by 203 km as also travel time.
 - At present, vehicles take an over-200 km-long detour using the Naranarayan Bridge.
 - The new bridge will complete the missing link of NH127B from Assam to Meghalaya.
8. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has interacted with IT and electronic manufacturing professionals & key industry leaders from across the country in ___ **New Delhi**.
Note:
 - The Prime Minister Modi also launched the "Main Nahin Hum" Portal and App on the occasion.
 - The portal which works on the theme "Self for Society" will enable IT professionals and organizations to bring together their efforts towards social causes, and service to society on one platform.
9. Who has inaugurated the International Conference on Status and Protection of Coral Reefs (STAPCOR – 2018) at Bangaram coral Island of Union Territory of Lakshadweep ___**Dr. Harsh Vardhan**.



Note:

- The theme of the conference is "Reef for Life".
- About 150 delegates both International and National, are participating in this mega event.

10. The Indian Mobile Congress 2018 (second edition) has opened in ___ **New Delhi**.

Note:

- The digital forum is organized by the COAI and brings together industry partners, OEMs, service providers, policymakers and experts to discuss and deliberate on emerging technology, issues, policy guidelines.
- The theme for this year is "New Digital Horizons Connect, Create, Innovate."

11. Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh has declared open the first edition of North East Olympic Games (NEOG) 2018 at ___ **Imphal**.

Note:

- Around 2000 thousand athletes will compete in 12 disciplines including Athletics, Archery, Badminton, Boxing, Football, Judo, Karate-Do, Shooting, Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Weightlifting and Wushu.
- The NEOG games is being organized by the MOA under the aegis of the North East Olympic Association.

12. The Minister of Human Resource Development (HRD) Prakash Javadekar has launched the web portal in New Delhi ___ **www.sparc.iitkgp.ac.in**.

Note:

- SPARC scheme aims at improving the research ecosystem of India's higher educational institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best institutions in the world.

13. The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh attended the Raising Day Parade of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) at Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh ___ **57th**.

Note:

- The ITBP jawans are deployed in North East and Left Wing Extremism affected areas.
- On this occasion, 1 Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak, 05 President's Police Medals for Distinguished Service, 23 Police medals for meritorious service and 1 Jeevan Raksha Padak were awarded.

14. The Union minister Maneka Sanjay 'Gandhi' has inaugurated the Women of India National Organic Festival (5th edition) in ___ **New Delhi**.

Note:

- The objective of the ten days long 'Organic Festival' is to boost organic culture and promote women, organic farmers and entrepreneurs.
- The WOI Festival will have producers and manufacturers of organic products from 26 states.

15. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated three-day farmers' conclave 'Krishi Kumbh 2018' in ___ **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**.

Note:

- The 'Krishi Kumbh' is being organized to promote modern technique and diversification in agriculture that could help in doubling farmers income.
- The Kumbh will witness Israel & Japan (as official partners) while Haryana & Jharkhand (as partner states).

16. The union Road Transport & Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has laid the foundation for India's largest Dry Dock at ___ **Cochin Shipyard, Kerala**.

Note:

- The Dry Dock will give an impetus to Make in India initiative under Sagarmala and raise India's share in global shipbuilding to two percent.
- Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) is the largest shipbuilding and maintenance facility in India.

17. Who has inaugurated the 'Statue of Unity' (world's tallest Statue) on birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in Surat, Gujarat_ **Narendra Modi**.

Note:

- The Statue of Unity (bronze statue) is the tallest statue (182-metre) in the world, taller than China's Spring Temple Buddha statue (153-metre) and almost double the height of the Statue of Liberty (93 metres) in US.
- The statue of unity located on the Sadhu Bet island (near Rajpipla) on the Narmada river, located between the Satpura and the Vindhya mountain ranges.
- The project cost was Rs 3,050 crore and fully funded by the Gujarat government, built within three-and-a-half years from infrastructure major Larsen & Toubro (L&T).

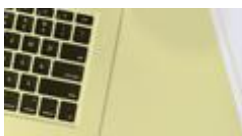
18. The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the International Arya Mahasammelan - 2018 in ___ **Delhi**.

Note:

- The President noted that around 10,000 units of Arya Samaj are engaged in welfare activities across the world.
 - Swami Dayanand Saraswati had worked for the eradication of discrimination in society on the basis of caste, creed, and sect and motivated everyone to become Arya – that is - the best. It is our duty to take the work of Swami Dayanand Saraswati further.
19. The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) inaugurated 10th Nuclear Energy Conclave in ___ **New Delhi**.

States News

1. Maharashtra CM Fadnavis & Nitin Gadkari inaugurate new domestic cruise terminal in ___ **Mumbai**.
Note:
 - The Goa cruise service ' Angriya' will be operated between Mumbai and Goa on alternate days.
 - The rates for the luxury Mumbai-Goa ride begin from Rs 7,000 dorm room per person and goes up to Rs 11,000 family suite per person.
 - India's first ever passenger cruise ship service is a joint venture between Mumbai Port Trust and Angriya Sea Eagle Pvt Ltd.
2. 3rd Himachal Pradesh Science Congress to boost to rural innovation sector held at Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) ___ **Mandi**.
Note:
 - During the event, scientists and researchers will discuss recent progress and future trends in technologies relevant for rural transformation.
 - The theme of Himachal Pradesh Science Congress is "Rural Upliftment through Science and Technology Interventions".
3. The state Govt. has extended benefits of Employees Provident Fund (EPF) as well as insurance schemes to those cutting, harvesting and transporting sugarcane_ **Maharashtra Govt**.
Note:
 - The state has around eight lakh labourers engaged in these works in 168 cooperative and private sugar factories.
 - It has been proposed to extend benefits of EPF, insurance schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, financial assistance for children's education and housing to these labourers.
4. Uzbekistan Ambassador to India Farhod Arziev has inaugurated a four-day international dance festival in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh___ **Udbhav Utsav -2018**.
Note:
 - Dance troupes from India (25 teams), Bulgaria, Turkey and Sri Lanka are taking part in the event.
 - The main objective of the competition-festival is to give opportunity to performers for creative communications, to present new talents and to facilitate acquaintance with pieces of national culture and arts in different countries.
5. Arunachal Pradesh Information and public relation (IPR) Minister 'Bamang Felix' has inaugurated the two days Children's Film Bonanza begins in___ **Naharlagun**.
Note:
 - The film festival is being organized by the Children's Film Society, India, in collaboration with Arunachal Pradesh Information and Public Relation Department.
6. The three-day 5th National Summit on Good and Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems at ___ **Kaziranga, Assam**.
Note:
 - The main objective of the Summit is to share and learn the good practices and innovations being implemented by several states and organizations for the betterment of the health sector.
7. The Supreme Court (SC) has banned the petrol (15-year-old) & diesel vehicles (10-year-old) to curb pollution in ___ **Delhi-NCR**
Note:
 - The apex court directed that a list of 15-year-old petrol and 10-year-old diesel vehicles be published on the website of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and transport departments of the NCR area.
8. Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Smt Harsimrat Kaur Badal has inaugurated the Gujarat's first mega food park inaugurated in ___ **Surat**.
Note:



- This Mega Food Park has been set up in 70.15 acres of land at a cost of Rs. 117.87 crore.
- Under the Scheme, Government of India provides financial assistance upto Rs. 50.00 Crore per Mega Food Park project.

Important News – World

1. The 7th meeting of education ministers of member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) was held in ___Astana, Kazakhstan.

Note:

- The Minister of State for Human Resource Development Dr. Satya Pal Singh participated on behalf of Government of India.
- The objective of SCO is military cooperation between members. It also works towards intelligence-sharing, counter-terrorism operations in Central Asia.

2. China's President Xi Jinping has officially opened the world's longest sea-crossing bridge **connecting ___Hong Kong, Macau and mainland China.**

Note:

- The bridge connects Hong Kong to Macau and the mainland Chinese city of Zhuhai.
- The bridge spans 55km including its access roads and has cost about USD 20bn.
- About 30km of its total length crosses the sea of the Pearl River delta.
- The bridge, designed to withstand earthquakes and typhoons, was built using 400,000 tonnes of steel, enough to build 60 Eiffel Towers.

3. Who has successfully tested the world's largest cargo drone Feihong-98(FH-98), carry a payload of 1.5 tonnes__ **China.**

Note:

- This commercial drone 'Feihong-98' has been developed and modified by the China Academy of Aerospace Electronics Technology.
- The FH-98 has a maximum take-off weight of 5.25 tonnes (flight height of 4,500 metres) a cruising speed of 180 kmph, and a maximum range of 1,200 kms.

4. The NATO's (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) biggest military maneuvers (since the Cold War) begins in ___**Norway.**

Note:

- The wargames bring together around 50,000 personnel from all 29 NATO allies, plus partners Finland and Sweden.
- Around 65 vessels, 150 aircraft and 10,000 vehicles will also participate in the drill, which takes place in central and eastern Norway, the North Atlantic and the Baltic Sea. It will go on till November 7.

5. India collaborate with the country to research different aspects of the Ganga delta region and the Bay of Bengal ___**the United Kingdom (UK).**

Note:

- The Bay of Bengal is also critical to India in terms of resources and also has an impact on the Southwest Monsoon, the lifeline of the country.
- According to the British High Commissioner to India Dominic Asquith, the partnership through the UKRI has generated innovative scientific and technological solutions that will "transform both our societies and economies".

6. An Indonesian plane carrying 188 passengers and crew crashed into the ___**Java sea.**

Note:

- The jet vanished from radar just 13 minutes after taking off from the capital Jakarta, plunging into the ocean.
- The plane lost contact with air traffic control around 6.30 am, en route to Pangkal Pinang on the island of Bangka.

7. Germany's chancellor (since 2000) Angela Merkel, she will step down as chancellor in ___**2021.**

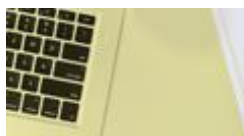
Note:

- She is the first female chancellor of Germany.
- Angela Merkel, who is serving her fourth term in office and is widely regarded as one of the most powerful people in the world.

8. The world's largest airport terminal "under one roof" has been officially opened in ___**Istanbul.**

Note:

- It has capacity to serve 90 million passengers.
- The airport has been envisioned to have a total capacity of up to 200 million passengers (once all four phases are completed) in next 10 years.



Banking & Financial Awareness

1. As per Nation Brands 2018 report by Brand Finance, India's rank in most valuable nation brand in the world__ **9th**.
Note:
 - India's brand value is USD 2,159 billion in 2018.
 - US topped in the list with brand value of USD 25,899 billion.
2. Who has launched its USD 1 billion masala bond programme in the US and Europe__ **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**.
Note:
 - These bonds are aimed at funding the rapidly expanding investment activities of IFC in India.
 - Masala bonds are bonds issued outside India but denominated in Indian Rupees.
 - IFC uses them to raise rupee funds overseas and brings the proceeds to India for investments.
 - Masala (means spices) term was used by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to evoke the culture and cuisine of India.
3. RBI has lifted the prohibition on Payments Bank to open new accounts, after it submitted a compliance report__ **Fino Payments Bank**
Note:
 - Earlier, Fino Payment Bank had been unable to enrol new customers (since the end of May) after RBI found the bank to be non-compliant with its operational guidelines.
 - According to RBI's operating guidelines for payments banks (India Post Payments Bank Ltd, Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank, Airtel Payments Bank and Jio Payments Bank), a customer can make deposits of up to Rs. 1 lakh per account in a year.
4. Who has launched a QR-based smartphone payment settlement service in Japan in collaboration with SoftBank and Yahoo Japan Corporation __ **Paytm**.
Note:
 - It is a smartphone-based settlement service that allows users to store money from a bank account in their 'PayPay' wallet and make payments with it.
 - It is built around its QRtech which it has deployed in India to allow customers to make offline payments.
5. PNB Metlife has unveiled an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered customer service app __ **Khushi**.
Note:
 - The app is designed to be a one-stop shop providing insurance-related information, anytime, anywhere, such as policy features, premium due details besides providing fund value and portfolio details.
 - Khushi app has ability to understand customer intent and provide tailored responses.
6. The bank and Hitachi Payment Services Pvt Ltd have signed a definitive agreement to enter into a joint venture for the establishment of a latest card acceptance and future ready digital payment platform for India__ **State Bank of India (SBI)**.
Note:
 - Now, India's largest bank will have a majority stake in the proposed joint venture.
 - Hitachi Payment Services Pvt Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hitachi Ltd, Japan.
7. Who has announced to inject Rs 40,000 crore into the system in November through the purchase of government securities as it looks to meet festive season demand for funds__ **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**.
Note:
 - The central bank had already injected Rs 36,000 crore into the system in October through open market operation (OMO).
 - Open market operations (OMO) refer to the buying and selling of government securities in the open market in order to expand or contract the amount of money in the banking system.



8. The Country's largest bank SBI has reduced the daily cash withdrawal limit for Classic and Maestro debit cards to **Rs. 20,000 per day (earlier, Rs. 40,000)**.

Note:

- Now, SBI account holders having higher daily cash withdrawal requirements can apply for other debit card variants that have a higher daily withdrawal limit.
- There will be no changes in the daily withdrawal limits on other SBI debit cards.

9. America's IBM has acquired software company in a USD 34 billion cash and debt deal, marking its biggest ever acquisition till date **Red Hat**.

Note:

- The open source, enterprise software maker 'Red Hat' founded 25 years ago, valued at about USD 20.5 billion at the end of trading.

10. Who has launched the world's first Sovereign Blue Bond **Republic of Seychelles**.

Note:

- Sovereign Blue Bond is financial instrument designed to support sustainable marine and fisheries projects.
- The bond demonstrates the potential for countries to harness capital markets for financing the sustainable use of marine resources.
- The bond raised USD 15 million from international investors.

11. Who has bagged the 'Best MSME Bank - Winner 2018' award instituted by the Assocham **Corporation Bank**.

Note:

- The '6th Assocham SMEs Excellence Award - 2018' was held in New Delhi.
- The award was conferred based on the bank's performance in SME (small and medium enterprise) segment.

Important Dates

1. The United Nations Day is being observed globally on **24th October**.

Note:

- The theme of this year's concert, which is sponsored by the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations, is "Traditions of Peace and Non-violence".
- In 1971, the United Nations General Assembly had declared 24th October as the United Nations Day by adopting Resolution 2782.

2. World Development Information Day is being observed every year on **24th October**.

Note:

- In 1973, The United Nations General Assembly decided to institute a World Development Information Day coinciding with United Nations Day on 24th October.

3. Valmiki Jayanti (Pragat Diwas) is being observed and people pay their respects towards the first poet of Sanskrit literature **Maharishi Valmiki**.

Note:

- He authored the epic Ramayana.
- The processions called Shobha Yatra is also taken out to mark the occasion.

4. The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage observed by the United Nations on **27th October**.

Note:

- The General Conference of UNESCO approved the commemoration of a World Day for Audiovisual Heritage in 2005 as a mechanism to raise general awareness of the need to preserve and safeguard important audiovisual material for future generations.

5. International Animation Day is celebrated on **28th October**

Note:

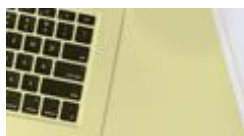
- The International Animation Day (IAD) commemorating the day in 1892 when Charles-Emile Reynaud's Theatre Optique made its first public appearance in Paris.
 - The day recognises and celebrates the artists, technicians and scientists behind the art of animation in all its forms and avatars.
6. The 'National Unity day' (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) is being celebrated every year in India on __**31st October**.
- Note:**
- The objective of this event is to pay tribute to the Iron man Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, on his birth anniversary by remembering his extraordinary works for the country.
 - In 2014, National Unity Day was introduced by the Government of India with the aim of celebrating this event every year on 31st October.

Obituaries

1. Japanese-born Marine biologist passed away in Japan's southern city of Nagasaki__ **Osamu Shimomura**.
- Note:**
- Shimomura, one of three scientists who won the 2008 Nobel Prize in chemistry for the discovery and development of a jellyfish protein that contributed to cancer studies.
 - Shimomura was born in Kyoto and studied in Nagasaki, where he survived the Aug. 9, 1945, U.S. atomic bombing.
2. Former Delhi chief minister & BJP leader passed away after a prolonged illness__ **Madan Lal Khurana**.
- Note:**
- Khurana was the chief minister of Delhi from 1993 to 1996 and was appointed the governor of Rajasthan (in 2004).
3. Senior composer and lyricist passed away in Mumbai__ **Yashwant Dev**.
- Note:**
- He had composed and written many popular Marathi songs.
 - He was honored with many awards including Gan-samradni Lata Mangeshkar Award and Gadima puraskar.
4. Noted Urdu writer passed away in Delhi due to illness__ **Professor Qazi Abdussattar**.
- Note:**
- He was former head of Aligarh Muslim University's Urdu department.
 - Abdussattar was awarded Padma Shri in 1974.

New Appointments

1. The new chief of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) for a period of three years __ **Priyank Kanoongo**.
- Note:**
- Kanoongo will be the fifth NCPCR chief since the commission was formed.
 - National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is a statutory under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India.
2. Who has been appointed as interim Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) director with immediate effect__ **M Nageshwar Rao**.
- Note:**
- Mr. Rao (1986 batch Odisha cadre officer) joined the CBI as Joint Director and was promoted as Additional Director in 2018 itself.
 - Earlier, 'Alok Verma' (CBI Director) and Rakesh Asthana (Special Director-CBI) were sent on leave.
3. Veteran banker has been appointed as managing director (MD) and CEO of Paytm Payments Bank__ **Satish Kumar Gupta**.
- Note:**



- Previously, Mr. Gupta had stints as the chief product officer at National Payments Corporation of India and deputy general manager at State Bank of India.
 - The Paytm Payments Bank is a separate entity in which founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma will hold 51% share, One97 Communications holds 39% and 10% held by a subsidiary of One97 and Sharma.
4. The four-member GoM headed by the union minister will examine the existing provisions for dealing with sexual harassment of women in offices__ **Rajnath Singh**.
- Note:**
- The other members of the GoM are Nitin Gadkari (road transport and highways minister), Nirmala Sitharaman (defence Minister) and Maneka Sanjay Gandhi (women and child development minister).
5. Former SBI chairperson Arundhati Bhattacharya has been appointed as an independent director of IT company __ **Wipro**.
- Note:**
- Bhattacharya graduated from Kolkata's Lady Brabourne College in 1977 and picked up banking as a career option for supporting the family following her father's retirement from Bokaro Steel plant as an engineer.
 - On 7th October 2013, Bhattacharya became the first woman to be appointed as chairman of SBI.
6. Justice Naresh Harishchandra 'Patil' sworn-in as the Chief Justice of the __ **Bombay High Court**.
- Note:**
- Bombay High Court is one of the oldest High Court of India located in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
 - Its jurisdiction covers the states of Maharashtra, Goa and Union Territories of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
 - The building is part of The Victorian and Art Deco Ensemble of Mumbai, which was added to the list of World Heritage Sites in 2018.
7. Ethiopian members of parliament have elected as the country's first female president__ **Sahle-Work Zewde**.
- Note:**
- She will replace Mulatu Teshome who resigned in unclear circumstances.
8. Who has been appointed as new Prime minister of Sri Lanka__ **Mahinda Rajapaksa**.
9. Far-right candidate has won the presidency of Latin America's largest nation Brazil__ **Jair Bolsonaro**.
- Note:**
- Mr Bolsonaro bagged around 55% votes against 45% for Fernando Haddad from the left-wing Workers Party.
 - His campaign slogan was "Brazil above everything, God above everyone".
10. The government has appointed Indian Revenue Service officer Sanjay Kumar Mishra as__ **Enforcement Directorate chief**.
- Note:**
- He will replace current ED director Karnal Singh's whose term ended on 25th Oct 2018.

Honor & Awards

1. Hindustani classical music instrumentalist will be honoured with the annual Ustad Chand Khan Lifetime Achievement Award __ **Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt**.
- Note:**
- Pandit Bhatt best known for his Grammy award winning album "A Meeting by the River".
 - The award founded in 1940 by Ustad Chand Khan Sahab to conserve and promote an awareness of both the rich and heterogenous cultural tapestry through focus on the classical arts.
2. US-based Dalit writer has won 2018 Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize for her book "Ants Among Elephants: An Untouchable Family and the Making of Modern India"__ Sujatha Gidla.
- Note:**
- The Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize is funded by the Shakti Bhatt Foundation, set up in 2008 in memory of young writer and editor Shakti Bhatti.
 - It carries cash prize of Rs. 2 lakhs.
3. Who has been awarded prestigious Seoul Peace Prize 2018 for contribution to high economic growth in India __ **Narendra Modi**.

Note:

- According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Mr. Modi's contribution to world peace and improving human development of the people of India were the reasons for him getting the award.
- The Seoul Peace Prize was established in 1990 to commemorate the success of the 24th Olympic Games held in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

4. Who has received the top UN Investment Promotion Award in recognition of its efforts to boost investments in the renewable energy sector in India__ **Invest India**.

Note:

- The award was presented by Armenian President Armen Sarkissian to Deepak Bagla, the CEO of Invest India, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Invest India is the official Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency of the Union Government, mandated to facilitate investments in the country.

5. Who has received the first World Agriculture Prize instituted by the Indian Council of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) in New Delhi __ **M.S. Swaminathan**.

Note:

- The prize will be presented by Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu at Vigyan Bhawan at a special session.
- The prize has been instituted by the ICFA with an aim to recognise individuals who have served humanity through agriculture.

5. Sanjay Agrawal (Secretary Agriculture and Co-operation) has inaugurated the two-days Global Agriculture Leadership Summit 2018 in __ **New Delhi**.

Note:

- The theme of the summit is, 'Connecting Farmers to Market'.
- Pioneer of India's green revolution Professor MS Swaminathan was also present on the occasion.

6. Tagore award for Cultural Harmony for 2014, 2015 & 2016 announced:

Note:

- 2014: **Sh. Rajkumar Singhajit Singh** (doyen of Manipuri dance).
- 2015: **Chhayanaut** (cultural organization of Bangladesh).
- 2016: **Sh. Ram Vanji Sutar** (one of India's greatest sculptors).
- The chairman of the Jury was Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the jury comprised of the Chief Justice of India, Justice Ranjan Gogoi.
- Tagore award for Cultural Harmony has been instituted by Government of India (GoI) in 2011 to commemorate 150th Birth anniversary of Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore (1861 – 1941).

7. Who has won the prestigious 2018 Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management Award__ **India**.

Note:

- This award celebrates the spirit of innovation in the public service by recognizing organizations that have made significant contributions to improve governance and services in the public sector.
- The union Government had sent entries for 2018 CAPAM International Innovations Awards, under various categories.

8. Who has been re-elected as Irish president after receiving 56% of the country's election vote__ **Michael D Higgins**.

Note:

- Peter Casey came second with 23.1%, while none of the other four candidates polled more than 10%.

9. Who has won the Miss Grand International 2018 title (6th edition) of the beauty pageant in Yangon, Myanmar__ **Clara Sosa (Miss Paraguay)**.

Note:

- Clara Sosa succeeds Miss Grand International 2017 Maria Jose Lora of Peru.
- FBB Colors Femina Miss Grand India 2018 Meenakshi Chaudhary was named 1st runner-up.

10. Nobel Prize Winner will be honoured by Harvard University for her work promoting girls' education__ **Malala Yousafzai**.

Note:

- Yousafzai will be conferred with the Gleitsman Award 2018 at a ceremony on 6th December this year.
- The Gleitsman Award provides 125,000 US dollars for activism that has improved quality of life around the world.
- Now, Yousafzai is a student at Oxford University in England.

11. Indian scientist has won the World Health Summit Startup award, 2018 for his invention __ **Roopam Sharma**.

Note:

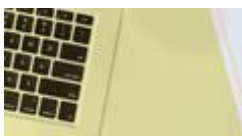
- Manovue eliminates the need for Braille language to decipher a printed text and instead combines vision intelligence to help the visually impaired people read.
 - Manovue was also awarded the Microsoft Imagine Cup 2015 and Yahoo Accenture Innovation Jockeys season 4.
12. Malayalam author has won the inaugural JCB Prize for literature for his book 'Jasmine Days', __ **Benyamin**.
Note:
- 'Jasmine Days', his second book, tells the story of a young woman in a city where the promise of revolution turns into destruction and division.
13. Pakistan's human rights activist and lawyer has been posthumously awarded the UN Prize along with three other winners__ **Asma Jahangir**
Note:
- Rebeca Gyumi of Tanzania, Brazil's first indigenous lawyer Joenia Wapichana and Ireland's human rights organization Front Line Defenders are the other winners of the prize.
 - The award ceremony will take place on December 10 on World Human Rights Day in New York.
 - Before Jahangir three Pakistani women, Begum Ra'ana Liaquat Ali Khan, Benazir Bhutto and Malala Yousufzai have been accorded the honor.

Sports News

11. Who won the Airtel Delhi Half Marathon men's race __ **Ethiopian Belihu**.
Note:
- Andamalak Belihu (19-year) improved on his personal best timing to clock 59.18 seconds (last year he finished second).
 - Walelegn clinched the Silver (59.22- seconds), while Kenya's Daniel Kipchumba grabbed the third sport (59.48-seconds).
 - Among the Indians, runners Abhishek (1:4:14) and Sanjivani Jadhav topped in the men's and women's category (1:13:58).
12. India's medium pacer has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket__ **Praveen Kumar**.
Note:
- Mr. Kumar played six Tests, 68 ODIs and 10 T20Is for India, picking up 112 wickets across the formats.
 - Praveen Kumar made his limited-overs debut in 2007 and Test debut against West Indies cricket team at Kingston in June 2011.
13. Who has won the Vijay Hazare Trophy title 2018 at M Chinnaswamy stadium in Bengaluru, Karnataka__ **Mumbai**.
Note:
- The Vijay Hazare Trophy 2018 (17th-season) has been contested by the 37 domestic cricket teams of India.
 - The Vijay Hazare Trophy was started in 2002-03 as a limited-overs cricket domestic competition.
14. Who won the 2018 Women's Volleyball World Championship__ **Serbia**.
Note:
- The Serbian women earned their 2nd World Championship medal, and first-ever World Championship title, on in Yokohama, Japan.
15. Indian wrestler bagged silver at Wrestling World Championship 2018 of 65 kg category __ **Bajrang punia**.
Note:
- Sushil Kumar is the lone Indian to win a gold medal at the World Championships, achieving the feat in 2010 in Moscow in the 66kg category.
16. West Indies all-rounder has announced his retirement from international cricket __ **Dwayne Bravo**.
Note:
- He will continue to play franchise T20 cricket around the world.
 - Bravo played 40 Tests, 164 ODIs & 66 T20Is for the Windies, made 2986 runs in ODIs and took 199 wickets.
17. Who has become the fastest batsman to score 10,000 runs in the history of ODI cricket __ **Virat Kohli**.
Note:
- He overtook Sachin Tendulkar, who had reached 10,000 ODI runs (259th innings) in 2001.
18. Who has won bronze medal in the women's freestyle (57kg weight class) in Wrestling World Championships in Budapest, Hungary__ **Pooja Dhanda**.
Note:
- Dhanda defeated Grace Bullen of Norway 10-7.

- Before Pooja, only three Indian women grapplers (Alka Tomar, Geeta Phogat and Babita Phogat) had won a bronze medal each at the Worlds Championships.
19. Indian table tennis player has won a silver medal in the under-21 women's singles category of the ITTF Challenge Belgium Open __ **Ayhika Mukherjee**.
- Note:**
- She lost to Korea's Youjin Kim in the final. In the semifinals, Ayhika had defeated Hong Kong's Chengzhu Zhu to enter the finals.
20. The joint winners of the Asian Champions Trophy Men's Hockey at Muscat in Oman __ **India and Pakistan**.
- Note:**
- As the turf was completely waterlogged, it was decided that the honours will be shared.
 - Before this edition, both India and Pakistan had won the tournament twice each.
 - The Asian Hockey Champions Trophy is an event held annually by the Asian Hockey Federation (since 2011).
21. Who won the 2018 World Billiards Championship title at Leeds in UK __ **Sourav Kothari**.
- Note:**
- The former national and Asian Billiards champion Kothari was pipped at the post for the coveted World Billiards crown on two occasions in the last two years, including a loss to Gilchrist in 2016 final in Bengaluru.
22. Indian golfer has won the Panasonic Open India title at the Delhi Golf Club __ **Khalin Joshi**.
- Note:**
- Now, Joshi became the seventh Indian to win the Panasonic Open India title in the last eight editions of the tournament.
23. Kenyan distance runner has won the Valencia race __ **Abraham Kiptum**.
- Note:**
- The previous best time was set eight years ago by Ethiopia's Zersenay Tadesse who ran the Lisbon half-marathon in 58 minutes and 23 seconds in March 2010.
24. Indian Grandmaster finished tied third at the Isle of Man International tournament after beating Michael Adams (England) in the final round in Isle of Man, United Kingdom __ **B Adhiban**.
- Note:**
- Poland's Radoslaw Wojtaszek emerged the winner of the event.

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