



# Monthly GK Blaster

# SSC & Railway Exam

## Best 200+ Current Affairs Questions

May 2018

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SSC & Railway Exam  
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May Month 2018**

Dear readers,

Monthly GK Blaster is a collection of **BEST 200+ Current Affairs news** and events that occurred in the month of May 2018. This file is important for all SSC & Railway Exams.

**National Affairs**

1. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) projected India to remain the fastest growing Asian nation with how much percent growth in 2018-19? **7.3 per cent**

Note:

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has projected India to remain the fastest growing Asian nation with 7.3 per cent growth in 2018-19, and 7.6 per cent in 2019-20.
- The Indian economy is forecast to grow at 6.6 per cent in the 2017-18 fiscal ended March 31, slower than 7.1 per cent in 2016-17.

2. The bilateral trade between India and China through Nathu La border resumed in May 2018. Nathu La connects which Indian state with China's Tibet Autonomous Region? **Sikkim**

Note:

- Nathu La connects the Indian **Sikkim** state with China's Tibet Autonomous Region
- Nathu La is one of the three open trading border (**Shipkila in Himachal Pradesh & Lipulekh** at the trisection point of Uttarakhand India & Nepal) posts between China and India.

3. Recently, SEBI tightened Know Your Customer (KYC) rules for foreign investors. According to the new rules, in foreign portfolio investor (FPI) structured as a company, a person owning how much percent stake would be considered the beneficial owner (BO)? **25 percent**

Note:

- According to the new rules, in foreign portfolio investor (FPI) structured as a company, a person owning **25 percent stake** would be considered the beneficial owner (BO).

Note:

- If structured as trust or partnership entity, the threshold is **15 per cent**.
- If the fund originates from a high-risk authority, any person owning **10 per cent stake** or more in an FPI would be considered a beneficial owner (BO).
- **Beneficial Owner** is the **natural person(s)** who ultimately owns or controls an FPI and should be identified in accordance with Rule 9 of the Prevention of Money laundering (Maintenance of Records) Rules, 2005 (PMLA),
- Among other things, the market regulator made it clear that **non-resident Indians (NRIs), overseas citizens of India (OCI) and resident Indians cannot be beneficial owners of FPIs**.
- NRIs and OCIs can only obtain an FPI licence on condition that they limit their roles to investment advisors and do not invest their money.

4. What is the rank of India in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Confidence Index 2018? **11<sup>th</sup>**

Note:

- India ranked at **11<sup>th</sup> positions** in FDI Confidence Index 2018.
- The annual survey is published by global consultants AT Kearney's. The survey tracks the impact of likely political, economic and regulatory changes on the FDI preferences of chief executive officers and chief financial officers.
- Due to coming elections in India investors are likely to be monitoring political risks.
- China ranked at fifth rank in the index. In 2017 China was on the 3<sup>rd</sup> spot.
- Top 3 countries in the index are – **US, Canada, and Germany**.



Note:

- In 2017, India was ranked 8<sup>th</sup> position.
- For the first time since 2015, India was dropped from the top 10 list.

5. According to the Credit rating agency Fitch, India's economic growth rate in FY19 will be grow at?

Ans - **7.3%**

**Explanation:**

- In its second-quarter Sovereign Credit Overview for Asia Pacific region, Credit rating agency Fitch said that India's economic growth will accelerate to **7.3%** in the current financial year FY19 and **7.5%** in the next fiscal.

6. India ranks at which position in Asia-Pacific on power index?

Ans - **Fourth**

**Explanation:**

- India ranked at **4<sup>th</sup> positions among 25 nations** in the Asia-Pacific region on an index.
- India scores well on the parameters of cultural influence and future trends and pegged as a "giant of the future" but scores low on the measure of economic relationships and in defense networks.
- The index is published by an Australian think tank firm the Lowy Institute of.
- Top three countries in the index are - **US, China & Japan.**

7. Which retail giant confirmed that it will buy 77% stake in India's largest e-commerce startup Flipkart for \$16 billion?

Ans - **Walmart**

**Explanation:**

- US-based retail giant Walmart has confirmed that it will buy 77% stake in India's largest e-commerce startup Flipkart for \$16 billion.
- The acquisition, which is the largest e-commerce deal in the world, will value the homegrown startup at a reported amount of \$20.8 billion.

8. What is the India's rank on the Global Optimism Index (GOI) in the first quarter of 2018?

Ans - **Sixth**

**Explanation:**

- India slipped to the 6<sup>th</sup> position globally on the Global Optimism Index in the first quarter of 2018, as per survey by Grant Thornton's International Business Report (IBR).
- The report says the business optimism in India has deteriorated while entering the last year of the current regime.
- **Austria** topped the index followed by **Finland, Indonesia**, the Netherlands and the US.

9. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) against which public sector lender in view of high non-performing loans?

Ans - **Dena Bank**

**Explanation:**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) against public sector lender Dena Bank in view of high non-performing loans.
- The gross non-performing assets of the bank, as percentage of gross advances, was 22.4% as on end March as compared with 16.17% a year ago.

10. Who is the head of the Parliamentary panel to study the recovery of black money and performance of public sector banks for 2018-19?

Ans - **Murali Manohar Joshi**

**Explanation:**

- BJP MP Murali Manohar Joshi will be the head of the parliamentary panel which is constituted to study the recovery of black money and performance of public sector banks among a host of subjects.
- As per the memorandum of the committee, the panel will look into the import of uranium for nuclear plants, mining activities and environment, upgrading of India Post offices and the drought situation in the country among other matters.



11. IMF in its latest report "Asia and Pacific Regional Economic Outlook" projected India's GDP growth rate for 2018 at?

Ans - **7.4%**

**Explanation:**

- In its latest report "Asia and Pacific Regional Economic Outlook", the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reaffirmed that India will be the fastest-growing major economy in 2018, with a growth rate of **7.4%** that rises to **7.8% in 2019** with medium-term prospects remaining positive.

12. According to Nomura report India's GDP is expected to grow by 7.7% in January-March. Nomura is a financial services company of which country?

Ans - **Japan**

**Explanation:**

- According to the Nomura report - India's GDP is expected to grow by 7.7% in January-March, up from 7.2% in the preceding quarter.
- Nomura is a financial services company of **Japan**.

13. IIM-Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE) launched the Bharat Inclusion Initiative, with a commitment of \_\_\_\_.

Ans - **\$25 million**

**Explanation:**

- IIM-Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE) has launched the Bharat Inclusion Initiative, with a commitment of \$25 million from The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Omidyar Network and Michael and Susan Dell Foundation.
- The initiative will focus on incubating and backing startups that work in areas such as financial inclusion, livelihood, education and health.

14. NCLT approved the merger of Telenor India with Bharti Airtel on March 8, 2018. What is the expand form of NCLT?

Ans - **National Company Law Tribunal**

**Explanation:**

- The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) had approved the proposed merger on March 8, 2018.
- The Department of Telecom (DoT) approved the merger of Telenor India with Bharti Airtel, according to an official source.

15. Which FMCG ranked as India's most trusted Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) brand in the TRA's Brand Trust Report 2018?

Ans - **Patanjali Ayurved Limited**

**Explanation:**

- **Patanjali Ayurved Limited** ranked as India's most trusted Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) brand in the TRA's Brand Trust Report 2018.

16. The 15th Finance Commission constituted which Advisory Council to advise and assist the Commission?

Ans - **Arvind Virmani**

**Explanation:**

- The 15th Finance Commission constituted an advisory council to advise and assist the commission.
- The 6-member council will be headed by the President of Forum for Strategic Initiatives, **Arvind Virmani**.
- The role and functions of the council will be to advise the commission on any issue or subject related to the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Commission.

17. IIT Kharagpur suggested setting up a critical science institute in India with a collaboration of which country?

Ans - **France**

**Explanation:**

- The IIT Kharagpur has suggested setting up a critical science institute with French collaboration.
- The critical science approach helps one probe beneath the surface meanings of words and symbols to comprehend root causes of problems instead of always treating the symptoms from a technical, quick-fix perspective.





**18. Indore** is the cleanest city in India: **Swachh Survekshan 2018 report**

**Explanation:**

- The second spot went to **Bhopal** (Madhya Pradesh) and **Chandigarh** stood third.
- **Jharkhand** was adjudged the best performing state in the survey followed by Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh.
- **Greater Mumbai** was found to be the cleanest among all state capitals.
- **Vijayawada** is cleanest among big cities having more than one million population while **Mysuru** has emerged as the cleanest among cities with population of three lakh to one million.
- The Swachh Survekshan 2018, organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), under the aegis of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban).
- Housing and urban affairs minister Hardeep Singh Puri.

**19. Guwahati** is now India's first railway station run by solar power.

**Explanation:**

- The project of installing solar panels was commissioned last year in April 2017.
- Around 2352 solar modules with a capacity of generating 700 kwp has been set up over the roof of the Guwahati railway station.
- Solar panels have been installed at the roof-top solar power plant.

**20.** According to new United Nations estimates, **Delhi** city is projected to become the most populous city in the world around 2028.

**Explanation:**

- India is expected to add the largest number of urban dwellers by 2050.
- 68% of the world population is projected to live in urban areas by 2050.
- Currently, 55% of the world's population lives in urban areas.
- The 2018 Revision of World Urbanization Prospects produced by the Population Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).

**21. International Rail Coach Expo (IRCE) - Chennai, Tamil Nadu.**

**Explanation:**

- Many reputed rail car and equipment builders are showing their technology and products.
- It will be a unique platform to bring different suppliers under one roof and create synergy for "Make in India".
- The expo is being hosted by Integral Coach Factory (ICF), under the Ministry of Railways, in coordination with CII (Confederation of Indian Industries) and RITES Ltd.

**22. Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology** adopted the word 'AYUSH' in Hindi and English languages for scientific and technical purposes.

**Explanation:**

- The "AYUSH" has become popular as the acronym for five traditional and complementary systems of medicine (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy) and successfully used in all Government communications.
- The decision follows a proposal from the Ministry of AYUSH in this regard.

**23. Shivangi Pathak** became India's youngest women to scale Mt Everest from Nepal side.

**Explanation:**

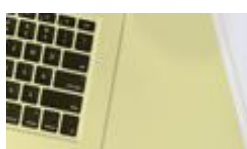
- Shivangi Pathak, a 16-year-old girl from Haryana, became the youngest Indian woman to conquer Mt Everest from the Nepali side.
- She remains the youngest Indian woman to scale Everest (considering all routes).

**24.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first smart and green highway-135 km long Kundli-Ghaziabad-Palwal (KGP) Expressway also known as \_\_\_\_.

Ans - **Eastern Peripheral Expressway (EPE)**

**Explanation:**

- The expressway was completed in record time of about 500 days against target of 910 days at a cost of nearly Rs 11,000 crore.



- EPE is India's first highway to be lit by solar power. It has eight solar power plants, with capacity of 4000 KW (4 megawatt) for lighting of underpasses and running solar pumps for watering plants.
- PM also inaugurated first phase of **Delhi-Meerut Expressway, India's first 14 lane** expressway and spans from Nizamuddin Bridge to Uttar Pradesh border.

25. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) teamed up with which organization to send extreme weather warnings (alerts) to people?

Ans - **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)**

**Explanation:**

- BSNL and IMD will send area-specific alerts to users if they happen to be at place likely to experience extreme weather conditions, even if their phone numbers do not belong to that particular telecom circle.
- The exercise is being carried out in an experimental stage, and if successful Ministry of Earth Sciences plans to rope in other weather agencies also.

26. PM Narendra Modi lays foundation stone for first phase (2400MW) of NTPC's coal based Patratu Super Thermal power project in which state?

Ans - **Jharkhand**

**Explanation:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid foundation stone for first phase (2400MW) of NTPC's coal based Patratu Super Thermal Power Project in Jharkhand.
- The project is 74: 26 Joint Venture between Government of Jharkhand (GoJ) and Patratu Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd. (PVUN), a subsidiary company of NTPC.

27. ASEAN India Film Festival was held in?

Ans - **New Delhi**

**Explanation:**

- ASEAN India Film Festival was held in New Delhi from May 25 to 30, 2018.
- It was organised by Ministry of External Affairs (ASEAN Multilateral Division) as part of the series of events to commemorate 25 years of ASEAN and India relations.
- The film festival was non-competitive and its tagline was '**Friendship through Films**'.

28. National Informatics Centre (NIC) set up cloud-enabled National Data Centre in which state?

Ans - **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**

**Explanation:**

- It will offer round-the-clock operations with secure hosting for e-governance applications of ministries and departments.
- It is fourth cloud-enabled National Data Centre of NIC after Delhi, Hyderabad and Pune.

29. Which international organization launches data visualisation app on education scenario in India?

Ans - **UNICEF**

**Explanation:**

- The UNICEF (United Nations Children's Emergency Fund) launched Data Visualisation App to provide user-friendly visual representation of complex analytics of education scenario in India.
- It was developed with technical inputs from the UNICEF, in collaboration with National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and National Institute of Education Planning and Administration (NIEPA).

30. Union Cabinet has approved Ministry of Home Affairs' (MHA's) proposal of setting up 4,072 mobile towers to improve telecom connectivity network in \_\_\_\_.

Ans - **Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Areas.**

**Explanation:**

- This network would be used by security personnel deployed in LWE affected areas.
- It will give impetus to e-Governance activities in backward and LWE affected area with availability of digital mobile connectivity.



31. What is the rank of India in terms of Healthcare access and quality (HAQ) index in the year 2016?

Ans - **145<sup>th</sup>**

**Explanation:**

- India ranked **145th among 195 countries** in terms of Healthcare access and quality (HAQ) index in the year 2016, behind its neighbours like China, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Bhutan.
- The index was released as part of Global Burden of Disease study released by Lancet, one of the world's oldest and best-known peer-reviewed general medical journal.
- Top 3 countries with highest levels of healthcare access and quality in 2016 are Iceland, Norway and Netherlands.

32. India receives first crude oil cargo from which country for Mangalore reserve?

Ans - **UAE**

**Explanation:**

- India received first consignment of 2 million barrels of crude oil from United Arab Emirates (UAE) for its strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru (on west coast), Karnataka.
- This first consignment from UAE fill one of two strategic reserve caverns at Mangaluru under agreement between Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL) and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

33. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated construction of Rs 6,809 crore Zojila tunnel project in \_\_\_\_.

Ans - **Jammu and Kashmir's Leh**

**Explanation:**

- It will be India's and Asia's longest and strategic bi-directional road tunnel, which will provide all-weather connectivity between Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar, Kargil and Leh.
- It will be situated at altitude of 11,578 feet on Srinagar-Kargil-Leh National Highway (NH-1A).

34. Baba Ramdev's 'Patanjali' launched which 'SIM cards' in alliance with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)?

Ans - **Swadeshi Samridhi SIM card**

**Explanation:**

- Initially, only the employees and office bearers of Patanjali will be able to avail the benefits of the SIM card.
- After its full-fledged launch, people will get discount of 10% on Patanjali products with this card.
- The card also comes with the medical and life insurance covers of Rs 2.5 lakh and Rs 5 lakh, respectively (in the case of road accident).

### International Affairs

35. The British marketing analytics firm, Cambridge Analytica announced to shut down all its business operations in Britain and the United States. The company has been accused of using the personal data of millions of users of which social networking site to control the result of the US 2016 presidential election?

**Facebook**

Note:

- The British marketing analytics firm, Cambridge Analytica announced to shut down all its business operations in Britain and the United States.
- The company has been accused of using the personal data of 87 million **Facebook users** to control the result of the US 2016 presidential election.

36. According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report India is the world's five biggest military spenders in 2017. How much amount India spent on defence in year 2017? **\$63.9 billion**

Note:

- According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report, India spent **\$63.9 billion** on defence in 2017, an increase of 5.5% compared with 2016.



- India was in the fifth spot, after the US, China, Saudi Arabia and Russia in the world's military spenders in 2017.
- China spends far more on its military than any other power in Asia.

37. The Swedish Academy postponed 2018 Nobel Awards of which categories in the wake of a sexual and financial scandal? **Literature**

Note:

- Due to assault allegations made against (Jean-Claude Arnault) husband of former member of the Swedish Academy, the Swedish Academy **postponed 2018 Nobel Literature Prize for the first time in almost 70 years.**
- The Swedish Academy intends to decide on and announce the Nobel Prize in Literature for 2018 in parallel with the naming of the 2019 laureate.

38. As per the Airports Council International (ACI) traffic forecast, what is the rank of India in the fastest growing country in the world for air passenger traffic? **Second**

Note:

- According to the Airports Council International (ACI) traffic forecast - India has been projected to be the second fastest growing country in the world for air passenger traffic.
- As per the ACI forecast Vietnam at the top position with an 8.5% growth rate, followed by India at 7.5% and Iran at 7.3%.
- China has been placed at the 8th position with 5.9% growth rate.

39. According to the WHO report, how many Indian cities figured in a list of 20 most polluted cities in the world in terms of PM2.5 levels in 2016? **14**

Note:

- According to the WHO report, **14 Indian cities** figured in a list of 20 most polluted cities in the world in terms of PM2.5 levels in 2016.
- In terms of PM10 levels, **13 cities** in India figured among the 20 most-polluted cities of the world in 2016.
- The PM2.5 includes pollutants like sulphate, nitrate and black carbon, which pose the greatest risk to human health.

40. The P5+1 refers to the UN Security Council's five permanent members (the P5); namely China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States; plus, which country?

Ans - **Germany**

**Explanation:**

- **The P5+1 refers** to the UN Security Council's five permanent members (the P5); **namely China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States; plus, Germany.**
- It is a group of six world powers which, in 2006, joined together in diplomatic efforts with Iran with regard to its nuclear program.
- US President announces US withdrawal from 2015 landmark nuclear deal with Iran. The historic nuclear deal was reached in Vienna in July 2015 between Iran and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council along with **Germany** and the European Union.

41. Arun-3 Hydropower project being constructed in which country?

Ans - **Nepal**

**Explanation:**

- Arun-3 Project is the largest capacity project in the history of hydroelectricity of **Nepal**, scheduled to be constructed within next five years on Arun river.
- Nepal Govt. granted power generation license to Indian government-owned subsidiary **Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd (SJVNL)** for Arun-3 Hydropower Project located in Nepal.





42. Narendra Modi is one of the top 10 most powerful people in the world: Forbes

**Explanation:**

- India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi is one of the world's top 10 most powerful people by Forbes.
- The list is topped by Chinese President Xi Jinping.
- Modi is ranked 9th among 75 people in the Forbes 2018 list of the world's most powerful people, who have changed the world.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin at the second position.
- Donald Trump is at third place, German Chancellor Angela Merkel (4) and Amazon's chief Jeff Bezos (5).

43. The World Health Organization (WHO) launched an initiative 'REPLACE' to provide a guidance for all countries on how to remove artificial trans fats from their foods supply **by 2023**.

**Explanation:**

- REPLACE stands for review dietary sources, promote use of healthier fats, legislate, assess changes, create awareness, and enforce.
- This initiative is meant to lead countries in establishing legislation to eliminate the trans fats.
- Artificial trans fats are made when vegetable oil hardens in a process called hydrogenation.

44. **Guatemala** inaugurated its Israel embassy in Jerusalem and became the first country to follow in the footsteps of the United States.

**Explanation:**

- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Guatemalan President Jimmy Morales attended an inauguration ceremony.
- The US and Guatemalan moves break with decades of international consensus.

45. **Russia** unveiled the world's first floating nuclear power station.

**Explanation:**

- It will be primarily used to power oil rigs as Russia pushes further north into the Arctic to drill for oil and gas and needs electricity in far-flung locations.
- The Akademik Lomonosov arrived in Murmansk where it was moored in the port and presented to the media.
- The ship (144 by 30 metre) holds two reactors with two 35 megawatt nuclear reactors that are similar to those used to power icebreaker ships.

46. Which country recently, joined North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) as global partner?

Ans - **Colombia**

**Explanation:**

- **Colombia** joined North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) as global partner.
- It makes it first Latin American to join NATO.
- NATO is an intergovernmental military alliance between **29 North American** and European countries based on the North Atlantic Treaty.
- Headquarter of NATO is in **Brussels, Belgium**.

47. According to the WHO which country became the first country in south-east Asia to eliminate Trachoma?

Ans - **Nepal**

**Explanation:**

- According to the World Health Organization (WHO) Nepal became first country in south-east Asia Region to defeat trachoma, world's leading infectious cause of blindness.
- The eye disease was second leading cause of preventable blindness in Nepal in 1980s.

48. United Kingdom's National Crime Agency (NCA) in its report listed which three countries as a top sources for money laundering in the country.

Ans - **Pakistan, Nigeria and Russia**.

**Explanation:**

- United Kingdom's National Crime Agency (NCA) in its report listed **Pakistan** among top three sources for money laundering in the country.
- The other two countries are **Nigeria and Russia**.
- The NCA is non-ministerial UK government law enforcement agency.



## Agreement

49. Niti Aayog signed a pact with which company to develop a crop yield prediction model using artificial intelligence (AI) for farmers? **IBM**

Note:

- **Niti Aayog signed a pact with IBM to develop** a crop yield prediction model using artificial intelligence (AI) for farmers.
- The aim of this agreement is to work towards use of technology to provide insights to farmers to improve crop productivity, soil yield and control agricultural inputs with the overarching goal of improving farmers' incomes.
- To provide real time advisory to farmers in Aspirational Districts across **Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.**

50. Google.org granted how much amount of fund for teacher training and educational content creation in India? **\$3.0 million**

Note:

- Google.org, the philanthropic arm of Google, announced additional grants of **\$3 million** to two Indian non-profit organisations – Central Square Foundation and The Teacher App.
- The grants are a part of Google.org's mission to help provide quality education access and learning for all.
- Google.org aims to provide teachers with training and resources on the concepts of math, science, language, and pedagogy.

51. The Government of India signed how much loan agreement with the World Bank for the National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan)?

**Ans - 200-million Dollar**

**Explanation:**

- India signed a loan agreement of **200-million Dollar** with the World Bank for the National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan) for **315 districts** across all states and union territories.
- It would help the government in achieving its goal of reducing stunting in children 0-6 years of age from 38.4% to 25% by the year 2022.
- The POSHAN Abhiyaan, an overarching scheme for holistic nourishment, was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in March this year at Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan.
- POSHAN Abhiyaan (National Nutrition Mission) is scheme of Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- **POSHAN stands for** - Partnerships and Opportunities to Strengthen and Harmonize Actions for Nutrition in India.

52. India offered how much line of credit for Bio-Technology to Panama?

**Ans - 10 million dollar**

**Explanation:**

- During the visit of Vice President of India M.Venkaiah Naidu to Panama, India offered two lines of credit - **10 million dollar line of credit for Bio-Technology** and 15 million dollar for **Innovation sector- to Panama.**
- Also, both the countries agreed to work together to deal with the menace of terrorism.
- India and Panama signed two Memorandum of Understandings (MoU)- one on visa exemption for diplomatic official and consular passport and the other on the work plan for cooperation in the agriculture sector.
- The MoUs were signed in presence of Vice President Venkaiah Naidu and Panama President **Juan Carlos Varela.**

53. India and which country signed agreement in field of Renewable Energy?

**Ans - Peru**



**Explanation:**

- India and Peru signed the agreement on renewable energy sector in Lima on May 12, 2018.
- The pact was signed after bilateral meeting between Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and Prime Minister of Peru Cesar Villanueva Arevalo in Lima.

54. In May 2018, India and which Latin American country signed an agreement to boost cooperation in education sector?

Ans – **Guatemala**

**Explanation:**

- **India and Guatemala** signed a pact for strengthening diplomatic cooperation through Respective Foreign Service Institutes in the educational field.
- The agreement was inked after a meeting between Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and his Guatemala counterpart, **Jafeth Cabrera Franco** in Guatemala-city.
- In May 2018, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu was on three-nation visit to Latin American countries — **Guatemala, Panama and Peru.**

55. Facebook has partnered with which organisation to launch Digital Literacy Programme to train women on safe use of internet and social media?

Ans - **National Commission for Women (NCW)**

**Explanation:**

- Facebook partnered with National Commission for Women (NCW) to launch Digital Literacy Programme to train women on safe use of internet and social media.
- The programme was launched by Facebook in collaboration with Ranchi, Jharkhanda-based Cyber Peace Foundation (CPF), a civil society organisation involved in training related to all aspects of cyber security.
- Under it, awareness training will be conducted for 60,000 women in universities across major cities over a one-year period.
- These interactive training sessions will provide training on safe and responsible use of internet, social media and email. It will enable trainees to differentiate between credible and questionable information.
- The training will be conducted in local languages.
- The digital literacy programme will benefit women in universities across major cities in Haryana, Manipur, Delhi-NCR, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

56. India and World Bank signed \$21.7 million loan agreement for which state Public Financial Management Project?

Ans – **Rajasthan**

**Explanation:**

- India and World Bank signed \$21.7 million loan agreement for Rajasthan state Public Financial Management Project.

57. Tata Trusts signed MoU with Government to provide development support in eight worst Naxal-affected districts in which state?

Ans – **Chhattisgarh**

**Explanation:**

- Tata Trusts has signed MoU with Government to provide development support in eight worst Naxal-affected districts in Chhattisgarh.
- These eight worst Naxal-affected districts are covered under Transformation of aspirational districts Programme of NITI Aayog.

58. NITI Aayog signed agreement with which personality to promote Women Entrepreneurship Platform?

Ans - **Sushant Singh Rajput**

**Explanation:**

- NITI Aayog signed Statement of Intent (SoI) with noted media personality and Sushant Singh Rajput to collaborate and support its flagship Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) initiative.

59. India and which country launched Clean Air India Initiative in New Delhi?

Ans - **Netherlands**



**Explanation:**

- India and Netherlands launched Clean Air India Initiative in New Delhi.
- It aims to curb air pollution in Indian cities by promoting partnerships between Indian start-ups and companies from Netherlands.

60. NITI Aayog ink agreement with which company to provide AI, big data and connectivity solutions?

Ans – **ABB India**

**Explanation:**

- NITI Aayog and ABB India have signed Statement of Intent (SoI) to help India leverage power of advanced technologies, including robotics and artificial intelligence.
- Under it, two parties will work towards making key sectors of Indian economy ready for digitalised future and realise potential of AI, big data and connectivity.

61. India-Netherlands-Sweden to collaborate for research programme on which issue?

Ans - **HIV/AIDS**

**Explanation:**

- Governments of India, Netherlands and Sweden launched first-of-its-kind collaborative research programme on **HIV/AIDS**.
- The collaborative research programme will focus on accessing relevant populations of research interest, and leveraging next-generation technologies and advanced predictive analytics to better understand geographic diversity and different clades of HIV/AIDS virus.

62. BCCI signed agreement with which international organisation to promote 'Green' Cricket' in the country?

Ans - **UN Environment**

**Explanation:**

- The partnership aims to spread greater awareness about key environmental challenges facing the country, and highlight alternate and more sustainable solutions.

63. India and the World Bank signed how much loan agreement to provide additional financing for the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Rural Roads Project?

Ans - **\$500 million**

**Explanation:**

- The Government of India and the World Bank signed a \$500 million loan agreement to provide additional financing for the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Rural Roads Project, implemented by Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India, which will build 7,000 km of climate resilient roads.

### State Affairs

64. On which date Gujarat and Maharashtra states celebrated their 58th foundation day? **1 May 2018**

Note:

- On 1st May 2018 Gujarat and Maharashtra states celebrated their 58th foundation day.
- In 1960 that the erstwhile state of Bombay was divided on linguistic basis and two states namely Gujarat and Maharashtra came into existence.
- The day is marked with various cultural events and ceremonies highlighting the culture and traditions of Maharashtra.

65. Which state became the first state in the country to provide digitally-signed land record receipts?

**Maharashtra**

Note:

- **Maharashtra** became the first state in the country to provide digitally-signed land record receipts and accept a digital signature to check irregularities and bring in transparency.



66. Which state government along with WWF-India conducted the first organized census for the conservation of Indus dolphins on their population?

Ans- **Punjab**

**Explanation:**

- Punjab state government along with World Wildlife Fund (WWF) India conducted the first organized census for the conservation of Indus dolphins on their population.

67. Which state launched India's first Integrated Control and Command Centre (ICCC) for its smart cities?

Ans - **Madhya Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

- Madhya Pradesh government launched India's first Integrated Control and Command Centre (ICCC) for its smart cities at the Bhopal Smart City Development Corporation Ltd. (BSCDCL) facility in the Berkheda area.

68. Who has been appointed as the Green Ambassador of the Sikkim state?

Ans - **Mohit Chauhan**

**Explanation:**

- The Sikkim government nominated Bollywood singer Mohit Chauhan as the Green Ambassador of the state.
- To promote Sikkim as a Green Destination, nationally and internationally, on voluntary basis.
- Mohit Chauhan is a playback singer and singer of a band known as 'Silk Route'.

69. The world's second oldest rock discovered from which district of Odisha?

Ans - **Kendujhar**

**Explanation:**

- Scientists discovered the world's second oldest grain of magnetic zircon from the Singhbhum rock at the Champua in **Kendujhar** district of **Odisha**.
- The zircon is a mineral that **contains traces of radioactive isotopes**.
- It is estimated that the magnetic zircon in the rock is 4,240 million years old that will offer fresh clues about the earth's origins.

70. On 16 May 1975, **Sikkim** became the **22nd state** of the Indian Union.

**Explanation:**

- It was on 16 May 1975 that Sikkim, India's least populous state officially became a part of India.
- It is for this cause that this day is celebrated as the Sikkim Day.

71. **Telangana** state govt. issued an order to provide 2% reservation in government jobs in the state to meritorious sportspersons.

**Explanation:**

- The reservation would be applicable to 29 recognized sports disciplines
- It will not affect the overall percentage of reservation in the state.

72. **Bihar** state govt signed a MoU with NTPC Limited to improve the performance of Power Sector in the state.

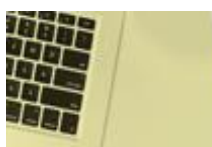
**Explanation:**

- The MoU envisages transfer of **Barauni Thermal Power Station** (720 MW) to NTPC.
- Bihar State Power Generation Company's (BSPGCL) equities in Kanti Bijlee Utpadan Nigam Limited (KBUN) & Nabinagar Power Generating Company (Pvt.) Limited (NPGC) will also be transferred to NTPC.
- All the three power generation facilities are envisaged to be transferred to NTPC from the effective date to be notified by Government of Bihar through a Statutory Transfer Scheme.

73. Cabinet approves setting up of a Central University of **Andhra Pradesh** in Andhra Pradesh.

**Explanation:**

- The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi has given in-principle approval for establishing a Central University by the name of "Central University of Andhra Pradesh" in Jantalur Village of Ananthapur District, Andhra Pradesh.
- A provision of funds of Rs. 450 crores have been approved for the first phase expenditure towards establishment of the new University.



74. The Himachal Pradesh govt. to spend **25 crore rupees** on renovating and developing the British Raj **Bantony Castle**.

**Explanation:**

- The castle is one of the historic and monumental buildings located on Mall Road Shimla town and fine example of the Anglo-Gothic architecture.
- The Bantony Castle, owned by a business family and housing the state police headquarters, was acquired by the government for over 27 crores two years ago.

75. The Union Cabinet approved an ordinance to set up the country's first national sports university in which state?

**Ans - Manipur**

**Explanation:**

- It will have its second campus at Uttar Pradesh's capital Lucknow.
- It will be a specialised University, first of its kind, to promote sports education in the areas of sports sciences, sports technology.

76. Which state will get specialised anti-Naxal combat force called Black Panther on the lines of the Greyhounds unit of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh?

**Ans - Chhattisgarh**

**Explanation:**

- **Chhattisgarh** will get specialised anti-Naxal combat force called Black Panther on the lines of the Greyhounds unit of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
- It was announced by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh after chairing meeting on Left-Wing Extremism (LWE).

77. Rajasthan state government launched which software for disease monitoring and strengthening tele-medicine services in the government hospitals?

**Ans - Nidaan**

**Explanation:**

- The software will help for providing presumptive diagnosis and monitoring of seasonal and non-communicable diseases as well as trends of ailments found in specific areas.

78. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu laid the foundation stone for the Southern Campus of National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) in which state?

**Ans - Andhra Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

- NIDM would become a Centre for excellence in the future and save people from cyclones and other disasters.

79. The Ministry of Women and Child and Development signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Uttar Pradesh Govt for management of Home of Widows at \_\_\_.

**Ans - Sunrakh Bangar, Vrindavan.**

**Explanation:**

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has constructed this shelter home for widows with a capacity of 1000 inmates.
- The MoU shall be in force for a period of 2 years which may be renewed for further period on satisfactory running of the Home.

80. Goa celebrates its Statehood day on which date?

**Ans - 30th May**

**Explanation:**

- Goa celebrates its Statehood Day on **30th May 1987** and became India's 25th state.

81. Which state became the first state in the Northeast to have solar toilets?

**Ans - Manipur**

**Explanation:**

- **Manipur** has become the first state in the Northeast and the third state in India to have solar toilets.
- The solar panel, connected to the toilets, absorb the heat to generate power and are also efficient to transform waste material.



### Scheme

82. Which ministry launched an initiative 'SWAYAM' to train teachers using digital platform? **Human Resource Development Ministry**

**Note:**

- Human Resource Development Ministry has launched an initiative 'SWAYAM' to train teachers using digital platform.
- The government will use the Massive Open Online Courses platform SWAYAM aims to update the teaching technique of 1.5 million higher education faculty with focus on new and emerging trends.
- To achieve this, in the first phase, 75 discipline-specific National Resource Centres (NRCs) have been identified to prepare online training material and keep the teachers well-informed of latest developments in their disciplines through the online refresher course.
- Several institutions such as Central, State and Open Universities, National Institutes for Technical Teachers Training, IITs, IIITs, NITs and other have been notified as NRCs in this regard.

83. In May 2018, Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad launched the website of Digital India Internship Scheme in New Delhi. Under this scheme, how many interns will be inducted for a period of three months?

Ans - **25**

**Explanation:**

- Under this scheme, **25 interns** will be inducted for a period of three months, paid a stipend of **10 thousand rupees per month**.
- The internship is an opportunity for a student to secure first hand and practical work experience under the guidance of qualified and experienced Supervisor and Mentor.
- It also aims at active participation in the learning process through experimentation and putting into practice the knowledge acquired in the classrooms.

84. Which state government launched Rythu Bandhu scheme for farmers?

Ans: **Telangana**

**Explanation:**

- The **Telangana government** launched Rythu Bandhu (friend of farmers) scheme at Dharmarajupalle-Indiranagar village in Karimnagar district on May 10, 2018.
- The scheme is a first-of-its-kind initiative providing investment support to farmers, who own land.

85. **IP Nani** - The union minister Shri Suresh Prabhu launched the Intellectual Property (IP) mascot **IP Nani** at the conference in New Delhi.

**Explanation:**

- Mascot IP Nani is a tech-savvy grandmother who helps the government and enforcement agencies in combating IP crimes with the help of her grandson "Chhotu" aka Aditya.
- The IP mascot will spread awareness about the importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) among people, especially children, in an interesting manner.

86. **Gujarat govt.** launch free treatment scheme for the road accident victims.

**Explanation:**

- Under this scheme, the state govt. will bear medical expenses of up to 50,000 rupees for each victim of road accident in the state for the first 48 hours.
- Free treatment includes dressing of wounds, X-ray, blood transfusion, treatment in ICU and MRI, and all other treatment available in a hospital.

87. **National Wind-solar Hybrid Policy** - Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) launched National Wind-solar Hybrid Policy to promote new projects as well as hybridization of the existing ones.

**Explanation:**

- The objective of the policy is to provide a framework for the promotion of large grid connected wind-solar PV hybrid system for efficient utilization of transmission infrastructure and land.
- These projects can be set up anywhere across the country depending on feasibility and land availability with bidders.
- The MNRE is also in the process of launching a scheme for new hybrid projects under this policy.

88. The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) launched Samagra Shiksha scheme to improve \_\_.

Ans - **quality of school education**

**Explanation:**

- The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) launched Samagra Shiksha scheme to improve quality of school education.
- The scheme aims at improving quality of education, enhancing learning outcomes and using technology to empower children and teachers.

89. Which Union Ministry launched the PRAAPTI App to bring transparency in electricity payments to Generators?

Ans - **Union Ministry of Power**

**Explanation:**

- The Union Ministry of Power launched web portal (www.praapti.in) and app namely PRAAPTI (Payment Ratification And Analysis in Power procurement for bringing Transparency in Invoicing of generators).
- The webportal and app aims to bring transparency in power purchase transactions between Generators and Discoms.

### Appointments National

90. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)? **Subhash Chandra Khuntia**

Note:

- Subhash Chandra Khuntia appointed new Chairman of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for three years.
- He replaced **TS Vijayan's** whose tenure ended on 21st February this year.
- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is an autonomous, statutory body which **regulates insurance and reinsurance industries in India.**
- **IRDAI** is a 10-member body including the chairman, five full-time and four part-time members appointed by the government of India.
- **IRDAI** headquarter is in **Hyderabad.**

91. Who took over as the new Director General (DG) of Press Information Bureau (PIB)? **Sitanshu Ranjan Kar**

Note:

- **Sitanshu Ranjan Kar** took charge as new Director General (DG) of Press Information Bureau (PIB).
- He had also been appointed as the **27th Principal Spokesperson of the Government of India.**
- He replaced **Mr. Frank Noronha.**
- The Press Information Bureau (PIB) is the nodal agency of the Government of India to disseminate information to the print and electronic media on government policies, programmes, initiatives and achievements.

92. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the 22-member Public Accounts Committee (PAC)? **Mallikarjun Kharge**

Note:

- Congress leader **Mallikarjun Kharge** has been **re-appointed** chairman of the 22-member Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of Parliament.
- **Kharge**, an MP from **Gulbarga (Karnataka)**, is the leader of Congress party in Lok Sabha.
- **About PAC** – It is the oldest parliamentary committee that examines **the accounts showing the appropriation of sums granted by Parliament** for expenditure of Government of India and such other accounts of autonomous and semi-autonomous bodies.
- The PAC consists 22 members -- **15 from Lok Sabha and 7 from Rajya Sabha.**





93. Jagdish Mukhi took over charge as the acting governor of which state? **Manipur**

Note:

- Jagdish Mukhi took charge as the acting governor of Manipur.
- Jagdish Mukhi who is the governor of **Assam** will hold office in the absence of Governor Najma Heptullah.

94. Ashok Lahiri appointed as full-time member of which commission? **15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission**

Note:

- **Ashok Lahiri** appointed as full-time member of **15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission**.
- He is at present the part-time member of the commission.
- **Ashok Lahiri** is the former Chief Economic Adviser of India.
- The head of the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission is **N K Singh**.

95. Who is the current Cabinet secretary of India?

Ans - **Pradeep Kumar Sinha**

**Explanation:**

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), headed by PM Narendra Modi approved the extension of Cabinet secretary Pradeep Kumar Sinha (1977 batch IAS officer of UP cadre) for another one year (till June 12, 2019).

96. In a cabinet reshuffle, Prime Minister given the additional charge of Finance Ministry to **Piyush Goyal**.

Note:

- Rajvardhan Rathore: Information and Broadcasting Ministry (Independent charge)
- SS Ahluwalia: Electronics Ministry
- KJ Alphons: Tourism Ministry
- Smriti Irani: Textiles Ministry

97. New Chairman of the Lalit Kala Akademi - **Uttam Pacharne**.

- Eminent artist and sculptor Pacharne succeeds ML Srivastava, Joint Secretary (Akademies).

98. New Hockey India president - **Rajinder Singh**.

**Note:**

- Earlier, Mr. Singh was the Treasurer of HI and currently serves as the Treasurer of Hockey Jammu & Kashmir.
- Hockey India (HI) is the governing body of field hockey in India, formed after Indian Hockey Federation was dismissed in 2008 by IOA.

99. New Chief Justice of Manipur High Court - **Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar**.

100. New Head of U.S India Business Council - **Ambika Sharma**.

101. New CMD of Coal India Limited - **Anil Kumar Jha**.

102. Senior advocate **Mukul Rohatgi** appointed as 'eminent jurist' in the high-profile Lokpal selection committee led by the Prime Minister.

- In May 2014, Rohatgi was appointed the Attorney General of India and resigned from the post in June 2017.

103. Who became the new chief minister of Karnataka?

Ans - **HD Kumaraswamy**

**Explanation:**

- Congress Leader G. Parameashwara was sworn in as Deputy Chief Minister.
- Earlier, Kumaraswamy (son of former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda) had served as the chief minister of the state from (Feb 2006 to Oct 2007).

104. Who has been appointed as the first-ever Chief Financial officer (CFO) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

Ans - **Sudha Balakrishnan**

**Explanation:**

- Sudha Balakrishnan has been appointed the first-ever chief financial officer (CFO) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).



- Earlier, she holds the post of vice president of National Securities Depository Ltd.
- She will be the 12th executive director of the RBI and will have a three-year term.

105. Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of Airtel Payments Bank?

Ans - **Anubrata Biswas**

**Explanation:**

- Airtel Payments Bank has appointed Anubrata Biswas as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.

106. Who has been appointed as the new chairman of the Press Council of India (PCI)?

Ans - **C K Prasad**

**Explanation:**

- Former Supreme Court Judge C K Prasad has been appointed as chairman of the Press Council of India (PCI)
- The Press Council of India (PCI) was constituted as an autonomous, statutory, quasi-judicial body, and started functioning from 16th November 1966.

107. Who get the additional charge of the DRDO Chief?

Ans - **Sanjay Mitra**

**Explanation:**

- Defence Secretary Sanjay Mitra was given additional charge of the Chairman of Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO)

108. Who became the new President of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC)?

Ans - **Justice R K Agrawal**

**Explanation:**

- He replaced Justice D.K. Jain.
- The NCDRC deals with consumer rights and addresses their disputes and grievances, is a quasi-judicial commission set up in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986.

109. Which bollywood actor flag off the 'Gaj Yatra' as brand ambassador of the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) at an event organized in Meghalaya?

Ans - **Diya Mirza**

**Explanation:**

- WTI and the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, formally launched the unique campaign the Gaj Yatra in Meghalaya.
- 'Gaj Yatra', a "journey celebrating India's national heritage animal", aims at securing 100 elephant corridors across India.

110. Who has been appointed as the new deputy National Security Advisor of India?

Ans - **Pankaj Saran**

**Explanation:**

- Earlier, he was the Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh (March 2012 to December 2015).
- The National Security Adviser (NSA) is the chief executive of the National Security Council (NSC), and the primary adviser to the Prime Minister of India on national and international security.

111. Who has been appointed as the new Governor of Odisha?

Ans - **Ganeshi Lal**

112. Who has been appointed as the new Governor of Mizoram?

Ans - **Kummanam Rajasekharan**

113. Who will continue to be Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) for one more year as he gets one-year extension?

Ans - **Sushil Chandra**

**Explanation:**

- CBDT is the top policy-making body for personal income tax and corporate tax and is part of the Finance Ministry.



## Appointments

### International

**114.** Which female veteran actor nominated as the Global Leadership Ambassador for Women in Public Service Project (WPSP) at Wilson Centre, USA?

**Ans – Shabana Azmi**

- **Explanation:**
- Veteran female actor and social activist **Shabana Azmi** nominated as the Global Leadership Ambassador for Women in Public Service Project (WPSP) at **Wilson Centre, USA**.
- The Women in Public Service Project (WPSP) is co-founded by **Hillary Clinton** which aimed at empowering the next generation of women around the world.

**115.** Who became the new Prime Minister of Armenia?

**Ans - Nikol Pashinyan**

**Explanation:**

- In May 2018, Armenia's parliament elected Civil Contract party leader 'Nikol Pashinyan' as a new prime minister of the country.
- He replaced Serzh Sargsyan who was earlier Prime Minister of the country.

**116.** Who has been sworn in as the new President of Costa Rica?

**Ans – Carlos Alvarado**

**Explanation:**

- **Carlos Alvarado** sworn in as the 48<sup>th</sup> President of Costa Rica. Alvarado is the country's youngest president in modern history.
- The capital of Costa Rica is **San Jose** and **Colon** is the currency.

**117.** Who became the new Prime Minister of Malaysia?

**Ans - Mahathir bin Mohamad**

**Explanation:**

- **Mahathir bin Mohamad** became the new Prime Minister of Malaysia. With this, 92-year old Mahathir became the **oldest living Prime Minister of Malaysia** and the world's oldest head of government.

**118.** Re-elected ICC Chairman - **Shashank Manohar**.

**119.** New Vice-President of Badminton Asia Confederation (BAC) - **Himanta Biswa Sarma**.

**120.** First female director of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) - **Gina Haspel**.

**121.** Who became the new President of Venezuela?

**Ans - Nicolas Maduro**

**Explanation:**

- **Nicolas Maduro** won the presidential elections for a second six-year term.

**122.** The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) has named its first female chief in the history of the 226-year-old exchange?

**Ans - Stacey Cunningham**

**Explanation:**

- She replaces Tom Farley.
- Now, America's leading two stock exchanges will be led by women after Adena Friedman took over as CEO of Nasdaq in January 2017.

**123.** Who has been appointed as the caretaker Prime Minister of Pakistan until general elections on July 25, 2018?

**Ans - Justice Nasir ul Mulk**

**Explanation:**

- **Justice Nasir ul Mulk** was the former Chief Justice of Pakistan.
- The interim administration usually does not make any major decisions until the new government is elected, though it may be forced to act to shore up the economy amid a worsening macroeconomic outlook



## Honours & Awards

**124.** Which among the following actor bagged the best actor award at the Dadasaheb Phalke awards, given by Dadasaheb Phalke Film Foundation? **Akshay Kumar**

Note:

- **Akshay Kumar** won the best actor awards at the Dadasaheb Phalke award for film **Padman** (Jury) and for Toilet: Ek Prem Katha.
- The award is given by Dadasaheb Phalke Film Foundation which was held in Mumbai.
- **Bhumi Pednekar** won the best actress award for the film '**Toilet: Ek Prem Katha**'.
- Veteran director & actor **Rakesh Roshan** had been awarded with the lifetime achievement award for his contribution to the industry as an actor, producer, and a director.

**125.** Who has been conferred with the 11th KISS Humanitarian Award 2018?

Ans - **Muhammad Yunus**

**Explanation:**

- Nobel laureate and noted economist **Muhammad Yunus** conferred with the KISS Humanitarian Award 2018.
- He is second Nobel laureate to be conferred the award. Last year it was presented to the 14th Dalai Lama.
- Yunus, is the founder of **Grameen Bank** and known as the Father of Microfinance.
- KISS Humanitarian Award is an international award given to someone who has made exceptional contribution to the society in various fields relating to social issues.

**126.** Who has been conferred with Swara Mauli Award?

Ans - **Lata Mangeshkar**

**Explanation:**

- Melody queen Lata Mangeshkar was honoured with the **Swara Mauli** title by Shankarcharya Vidyanarsimha Bharati Swami in Mumbai.

**127.** RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year' - **Faye D'Souza**

**Explanation:**

- The RedInk Award for 'Journalist of the Year' has been awarded to **Faye D'Souza**, executive editor of Mirror Now channel, for her coverage of issues that touch the lives of common people.

**128.** RedInk award for lifetime achievement in journalism – **Sir William Mark Tully**

**Explanation:**

- Veteran British journalist and former BBC India correspondent Sir William Mark Tully chosen for this year's RedInk award for lifetime achievement in journalism.
- The award, a part of the National **RedInk Awards for Excellence** in Journalism, has been **instituted by the Mumbai Press Club**.

**129.** 2018 Nikkei Asia Prize - **Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak**

**Explanation:**

- The founder of Sulabh International, Dr Bindeshwar Pathak, has been honoured with the Nikkei Asia Prize in Japan for his contribution to Asia's development,

**130.** T.K. Ramanathan Award For 2017-18 – Prajnesh Gunneswaran (Tennis player)

**Explanation:**

- Prajnesh Gunneswaran won the prestigious T.K. Ramanathan award for the year 2017-18 at the Tamil Nadu Tennis Association (TNTA).

**131.** European Golden Shoe Award - **Lionel Messi**

**Explanation:**

- **Lionel Messi** won the European Golden Shoe for the fifth time.
- He claimed the prize after scoring 34 goals in La Liga this season, helping his club to a 25th league triumph.

**132.** TITAN Reginald F Lewis Film Icon Award – **Sridevi**

**Explanation:**





- Veteran Bollywood actor Sridevi honoured posthumously with the TITAN Reginald F Lewis Film Icon Award at the **Cannes Film Festival**.
- Subhash Ghai (Veteran filmmaker) and Namrata Goyal (producer) received the award on behalf of Sridevi's family.
- The award traditionally celebrates women of the film industry all over the world and salute the multi-cultural impact on the world of cinema.

**133.S&P Global PLATTS Global Metals Award 2018 - National Mineral Development Corporation(NMDC).**

**Explanation:**

- This is the first time since inception of this award that an Indian Company bagged an award in this category.
- The S&P Global Platts Global Metals Award recognizes top performers – industry leaders and innovators.

**134.Which cricketer emerged as the International Cricketer of the Year at the CEAT Cricket Ratings awards?**

Ans - **Virat Kohli**

**Explanation:**

- Indian skipper Virat Kohli has emerged as the International Cricketer of the Year at the CEAT Cricket Ratings awards.

**Other CEAT Cricket Ratings awards Presented are:**

- International Batsman of the Year Award: Shikhar Dhawan (India).
- International Bowler of the Year Award: Trent Boult (New Zealand).
- T20 Bowler of the Year Award: Rashid Khan (Afghanistan).
- Outstanding Innings of the Year Award: Harmanpreet Kaur (India).
- Lifetime Achievement Award: Farokh Engineer (India).
- T20 Batsman of the Year Award: Colin Munro (New Zealand).
- Domestic Player of the Year Award: Mayank Agarwal (India).
- U19 Player of the Year award: Shubman Gill (India).
- Popular Choice Award: Chris Gayle (West Indies).

**135.Nari Shakti Puraskar 2017 presented to the members of \_\_\_.**

Ans - **INSV Tarini team**

**Explanation:**

- The Six-member all-women team led by Lieutenant Commander Vartika Joshi have received the Puraskar from the Minister.
- The crew of the Indian Navy Sailing Vessel 'Tarini' is a part of the Indian Navy's unique project 'Navika SagarParikrama', an all-women team circumnavigating the globe, promoting ocean sailing activities in the Navy and depicting Government of India's commitment towards women empowerment.

**136.Which organization has been awarded the Clarivate Analytics India Innovation Award 2018 in the Government Research Organizations Category?**

Ans - **Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)**

**Explanation:**

- Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) has been awarded the Clarivate Analytics India Innovation Award 2018 in the Government Research Organizations Category.
- This award yet again recognizes CSIR as the top innovator.
- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research was established by the Government of India in 1942 is an autonomous body that has emerged as the largest research and development organisation in India
- Prime Minister of India is the chairman of CSIR.

**137.Which Indian cricketer has been awarded the 'most inspiring icon of the year for Social Welfare?'**

Ans - **Yuvraj Singh**

**Explanation:**

- Yuvraj Singh has been awarded the 'most inspiring icon of the year for Social Welfare.'
- The award is presented by the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (DPIFF) for his exemplary contribution in the field of social welfare.

**138.Who won the Man Booker International Prize 2018?**



Ans - **Olga Tokarczuk**

**Explanation:**

- Polish author Olga Tokarczuk won the Man Booker International Prize for her novel 'Flights'.
- The novel, translated by Jennifer Croft, interweaves narratives of travel with explorations of the human body.
- She became the first Polish writer to win the award.

139. Who received the prestigious Linnean Medal in Botany from the Linnean Society of London?

Ans - **Kamaljit S. Bawa**

**Explanation:**

- Dr. Bawa is the first Indian to win the award ever since it was first constituted in 1888.
- He is the president of Bengaluru-based non-profit Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment.
- The scientist is being recognised for his pioneering research on the evolution of tropical plants, tropical deforestation, non-timber forest products and etc.

### Sports

140. Who became the new chief coach of the Indian men's Hockey team? **Harendra Singh**

Note:

- **Harendra Singh** is the current chief coach of the Indian men's Hockey team.
- He replaced **Sjoerd Marijne**.
- Earlier, Harendra Singh is the chief coach of the Indian women's Hockey team.
- Harendra Singh coached the Indian men's team earlier from 2009 to 2011.
- **Sjoerd Marijne** became new chief coach of the **Indian women's Hockey team**.

141. Who has been appointed as the head coach of Australia cricket team? **Justin Langer**

Note:

- Cricket Australia appointed Justin Langer as its new head coach.
- Justin Langer replaced Darren Lehmann, who resigned after the embarrassing ball-tampering episode in March 2018 against South Africa team.

142. Mohamed Salah named as the Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year for 2017-18. He belongs to which country? **Egypt**

Note:

- Mohamed Salah of Egypt was named as the Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year for 2017-18.
- He had scored 43 goals in 48 appearances in all competitions this season.
- He (Egypt) is the first African winner of the award.

143. Anikta Raina, included in the Government of India (GoI)'s Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), is associated with which sports? **Tennis**

Note:

- Anikta recently broke into the top-200, reaching a career-best 197 in the WTA rankings released earlier this month.
- With this, she became only the 5th Indian woman singles tennis player after Sania Mirza, Nirupama Vaidyanathan, Sunita Rao and Shikha Uberoi to break into the world's top 200

144. Diana Edulji is in news recently. She is a former women's captain of which Indian team? **Indian Cricket**

**Team**

**Note:**

- Diana Edulji is a former women's captain of **Indian Cricket Team**.



- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is set to honour former India women's cricket captain Diana Edulji with the CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award 2018.

145. What is the India's rank in the list of doping violations, as per latest report of World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)? **sixth**

Note:

- India has been ranked joint-sixth in the list of doping violations.
- India maintained their dubious record of being among top 10 nations with regards to doping violations being joint sixth as World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) published its report as per samples collected in 2016.
- Italy topped the rankings of drug cases in 2016, followed by France (86), United States (76), Australia (75), Belgium (73).

146. Who is the winner of the 2018 Azerbaijan Formula 1 Grand Prix tournament? **Lewis Hamilton**

Note:

- Mercedes' British driver Lewis Hamilton has won the 2018 Azerbaijan Formula 1 Grand Prix tournament at the Baku City Circuit in Baku.

147. The sports initiative 'Star Khel Mahakumbh' launched from which state? **Himachal Pradesh**

Note:

- The sports initiative 'Star Khel Mahakumbh' was launched by BJP MP Anurag Thakur and cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar at Dharamshala in Himachal Pradesh in the presence of 1,500 athletes.
- The athletes will compete in volleyball, basketball, cricket, football, kabaddi and athletics.
- The initiative has been designed in a manner as to attract participation of at least one lakh youth from across 5000 villages and 800 panchayats.

148. Which Indian squash player won the 2018 Abu Dhabi Open squash title? **Ramit Tandon**

Note:

- Ramit Tandon won the Abu Dhabi Open squash title 2018.
- He hails from Kolkata, West Bengal.

149. The 2018 Asian Cadet Judo Championships was held in which country?

Ans - **Lebanon**

Explanation:

- Rohini S Mohite and Tababi Devi Thanjam won gold medals while Harish settled for a bronze on the opening day of the Asian Cadet Judo Championships, being held in Lebanon.

150. Who won the Spanish Grand Prix 2018 tournament?

Ans - **Lewis Hamilton**

Explanation:

- **Lewis Hamilton** won Spanish Grand Prix 2018 tournament.

151. The Indian U-16 football team defeated which country in the final of Under-16 Tournament held in Serbia?

Ans - **Tajikistan**

Explanation:

- The Indian U-16 football team pumped in as many as three goals in the first 10 minutes of the match to outplay **Tajikistan** 4-2 and emerge champions in the four-nation Under-16 Tournament held in Serbia.

152. Who won the women's single Madrid Open title 2018?

Ans - **Petra Kvitova**

Explanation:

- **Petra Kvitova** defeated Kiki Bertens in the final to become the first woman to win three Madrid Open titles.
- She hails from **Czech Republic**.
- Petra Kvitova claims the 24th singles title of her career - and her fourth tournament win this year.
- The Czech adds to her 2011 and 2015 triumphs in the Spanish capital.

153. Which player recently ranked number 1 in the latest 2018 Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) rankings?

Ans - **Roger Federer**

Explanation:

- **Roger Federer** ranked No. 1 in the World in the latest ATP rankings.

- Rafael Nadal ranked on the second spot.
- Madrid winner Alexander Zverev remains in third.

154. Who won the men's single Madrid Open title 2018?

Ans - **Alexander Zverev**

**Explanation:**

- Alexander Zverev won Madrid Open title by beating Dominic Thiem in the final. Alexander Zverev hails from Germany.
- He becomes only the fifth active player to win at least three Masters 1000 titles.

155. **Heena Sidhu** won the gold medal in the women's 10m air pistol at the International Shooting Competitions of Hannover, Germany.

156. Winner of 5th Asian Champions Trophy 2018 - **South Korea**.

**Explanation:**

- The Indian women's Hockey team lost to hosts South Korea (0-1) in the summit clash and failed to defend its crown at the fifth Asian Champions Trophy at Donghae City.
- Indian striker Vandana Katariya was declared player of the tournament while youngster Lalremsiami was named as the upcoming player of the tournament.

157. Winner of Italian Open 2018 - **Rafael Nadal**.

**Explanation:**

- Nadal beat defending champion Alexander Zverev 6-1 1-6 6-3
- By winning the title, Nadal regained the ATP no. 1 singles ranking from Roger Federer.

158. Who won the Monaco Grand Prix 2018?

Ans - **Daniel Ricciardo**

**Explanation:**

- Australian Formula One racer Daniel Ricciardo won the Monaco Grand Prix 2018.

159. Vikas Gowda who recently announced his retirement from sports. He is associated with which sports?

Ans - **Discus Throw**

**Explanation:**

- Vikas Gowda is associated with Discus throw.
- He became the first and only Indian male to win Commonwealth Games medal in the discipline.

160. Which team won the 11th edition of Indian Premier League (IPL) 2018?

Ans - **Chennai Super Kings**

**Explanation:**

- Chennai Super Kings beat Sunrisers Hyderabad by 8 wickets in the final of the 2018 Indian Premier League at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.
- Shane Watson bagged the man of the match award.
- Rishabh Pant bagged the Emerging Player award.

161. Which team won the Uber Cup 2018?

Ans - **Japan**

**Explanation:**

- Japan's women clinched the Uber Cup, after defeating Thailand 3-0 in the final.
- Japan won the tournament after 37-year.
- The Uber Cup, sometimes called the World Team Championships for Women, is a major international badminton competition contested by women's national badminton teams.

162. Which team won the Thomas Cup 2018?

Ans - **China**

**Explanation:**

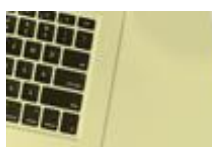
- China beat Japan to win the Thomas Cup 2018.
- The Thomas Cup, sometimes called the World Men's Team Championships, is an international badminton competition among teams representing member nations of the Badminton World Federation, the sport's global governing body.

163. Who won the Formula Junior Racing Series 2018 Championship?

Ans - **Bala Prasath**

**Explanation:**

- Bala Prasath Wins Formula Junior Racing Series 2018 Championship in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.



164. AB de Villiers announced his decision to retire from international cricket. He belongs to which team?

Ans - **South Africa**

**Explanation:**

- South African batsman AB de Villiers has announced his decision to retire from international cricket with immediate effect. In his 14-year career, he played 114 Tests, 228 One-Day Internationals (ODI) and 78 T20 Internationals.

### Summits & Conference

165. India- South Africa Business Summit 2018 was held in which city? **Johannesburg**

Note:

- India- South Africa Business Summit 2018 was held in Johannesburg.
- Union Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu attended the event.
- The tag line of the India- South Africa Business Summit is – **United by Legacy, Unified for Prosperity.**

166. The 4th Regional Conference on 'Futuristic, Resilient and Digital Infrastructure' 2018 was held in which city? **Bengaluru**

Note:

- The 4th Regional Conference on 'Futuristic, Resilient and Digital Infrastructure' was held in **Bengaluru.**
- The conference was organised by the Ministry of Finance.
- The conference was held to discuss three broad areas which include -
- the Challenges as well as Opportunities in the context of need for Futuristic,
- Resilient and Digital Infrastructure,
- Resource Mobilisation and Emerging Challenges among others.

167. The 12<sup>th</sup> informal meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers 2018 was held in \_\_\_\_\_. **Manila**

Note:

- The twelfth informal meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers was held in Manila, the capital of Philippines.
- Finance Minister of **Nepal Yuba Raj Khatiwada** chaired the meeting.
- The meeting was held on the side-lines of the 51st Annual Meeting of Asian Development Bank (ADB). Finance Ministers/Heads of Delegations from the SAARC member states attended the meeting.

168. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres announced to hold a climate summit in September 2019 in which city?

Ans – **New York**

**Explanation:**

- UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres announced to hold a climate summit in September 2019 in New York to review the commitments of the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change.
- In March 2018, Antonio Guterres appointed former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg as his Special Envoy for Climate Action who was tasked to support the United Nations (UN) in its climate strategy and in organising the 2019 summit.

169. The third edition of 'United Nations Peacekeeping course for African Partners (UNPCAP)' was held in which city?

Ans – **New Delhi**

**Explanation:**

- The third edition of 'United Nations Peacekeeping course for African Partners (UNPCAP)' was held in New Delhi.
- The main aim of this meeting is to build and enhance the capacity of the African Troop Contributing countries to the UN.

170. Which country hosted 15th Asia Media Summit 2018?





Ans – **India**.

**Explanation:**

- India hosted 15th Asia Media Summit 2018 in **New Delhi**.
- The theme of this summit is **“Telling our Stories Asia and More”**.
- The AMS 2018, an annual summit of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) Kuala Lumpur, is a prestigious summit in the Asia Pacific Region and India hosted the **event for the first time**.

171. Which country will host the 2018 World Robot Conference (WRC)?

Ans – **China**

**Explanation:**

- China will host the 2018 World Robot Conference (WRC) in August 2018.
- The theme of the conference is - **Creating new intelligent power and sharing the new opening-up era**.
- It will offer a venue where academic thoughts can be exchanged at high levels and the latest achievements demonstrated.

172. Which country hosted the 2018 Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Tourism Ministers' conference?

Ans - **China**

**Explanation:**

- China hosted the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Tourism Ministers' conference in Wuhan, on 9th May 2018.
- From India, the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism and Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, K. J. Alphons attended the conference.
- It was the first meeting of SCO tourism ministers since the organization was established in 2001 in Shanghai.

173. Which country hosted the first meeting of the BIMSTEC Working Group on Customs Cooperation?

Ans – **India**

**Explanation:**

- The first meeting of the BIMSTEC Working Group on Customs Cooperation was held in New Delhi, **India on 10-11 May 2018**.
- Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is an international organization involving a group of countries in the South Asia and South-East Asia namely, **Myanmar, India, Bangladesh, Thailand, Bhutan, Nepal & Sri Lanka**.
- BIMSTEC was established on 6 June 1997 through the Bangkok Declaration. It is headquartered in Dhaka, **Bangladesh**.

174. Which country will host the 2018 Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) summit?

Ans – **Nepal**

**Explanation:**

- Nepal will host the 2018 Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) summit.

175. Which city hosted the first-ever joint conference of Indian Customs and Department of India Posts?

Ans – **New Delhi**

**Explanation:**

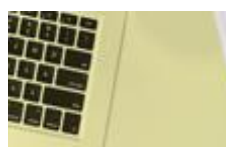
- The first-ever joint conference of Indian Customs and Department of India Posts at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi to deliberate on streamlining of imports and exports by post.

176. Which country hosted World Environment Day 2018?

Ans – **India**

**Explanation:**

- India hosted 2018 World Environment Day on June 5, 2018.
- With **“Beat Plastic Pollution”** as the theme for this year's edition, the world is coming together to combat single-use plastic pollution.
- India ranks at 177 positions out of 180 in Environmental Performance Index 2018.



177. The first edition of the Global Wind Summit will be held which city in September 2018?

Ans - **Hamburg**

**Explanation:**

- The first edition of the Global Wind Summit will be held in Hamburg, Germany in September 2018.
- The conference on wind is the largest and most important meeting of the wind industry worldwide.
- India is fourth largest country, after China, the US and Germany, in terms of wind energy installation capacity.

178. 9th edition of 'Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav' was held in?

Ans - **Tehri, Uttarakhand.**

**Explanation:**

- Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav' was held to promote India's rich cultural Heritage which was organised by the Ministry of Culture.
- **Mahesh Sharma**, Union Minister of Culture - Minister of State (Independent Charge)

179. The 71st World Health Assembly was held in \_\_\_ **Geneva, Switzerland.**

**Explanation:**

- The Union Health Minister Mr. J P Nadda led the Indian Delegation at World Health Assembly.
- The Event was held under the theme "**Health for All: Commit To Universal Health Coverage**".

180. Which country host the SCO Anti-terror meeting?

Ans - **Pakistan**

**Explanation:**

- The two-day conference named SCO-Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure Legal Experts (RATS) of legal experts took place in Islamabad under the framework of Shanghai Cooperation Organization, which comprises China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, India, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Pakistan.

181. The 3rd Mission Innovation Ministerial meeting was held at?

Ans - **Malmö, Sweden.**

**Explanation:**

- The Indian delegation was led by Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Science, Technology and Earth Sciences.
- The 'Mission Innovation' is a global platform of 23 countries and European Union aimed at accelerating clean energy innovations through enhanced Government funding, greater public-private sector partnership and enhanced global cooperation.

### Science & Defense

182. Vijay Prahar' exercise 2018 was concluded in which state? **Rajasthan**

Note:

- Vijay Prahar' exercise of South Western Command (SWC) was concluded at Suratgarh in Rajasthan state.
- The exercise is aimed to orchestrate wide spectrum of threats which are planned to be tackled through high tempo joint air and land operation.

183. The 'Varuna Naval Exercise' 2018 was held between India and which country? **France**

Note:

- The 'Varuna Naval Exercise' 2018 was held between **India and France** in Reunion Island in Indian Ocean Region.

184. Which country launched a new communication satellite "APSTAR-6C" into orbit? **China**

Note:

- **China launched APSTAR-6C satellite** via the Long March 3B launch vehicle from Xichang Satellite Launch Center at Sichuan province.
- APSTAR-6C satellite will "enhance Asia-Pacific satellite communications, broadcasting services capabilities".

185. NASA is planning to send the first unmanned helicopter to which planet which is scheduled to launch in 2020?



Ans - **Mars**

**Explanation:**

- NASA is planning to send the first unmanned helicopter to Mars in its mission scheduled to launch in 2020, to test the viability and potential of heavier-than-air vehicles on the red planet.

Mars 2020 will launch on a United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V rocket from Space Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida, and is expected to reach Mars in February 2021.

**186.** SURYA KIRAN-XIII, a joint military exercise between India and Nepal conducted at \_\_\_\_.

Ans - **Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand**

**Explanation:**

- Exercise SURYA KIRAN is a biannual event which is conducted alternatively in Nepal and India.

**187.** World's largest International Maritime exercise RIMPAC (Rim of the Pacific) was held at \_\_\_\_.

Ans - **Hawaiian Islands and Southern California.**

**Explanation:**

- As many as 26 countries, including India participated in the exercise.
- It is known as the world's largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC this year involves 47 surface ships, five submarines, 18 national land forces, and more than 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel.
- Four countries -- Brazil, Israel, Sri Lanka and Vietnam -- are participating in RIMPAC for the first time.
- The theme this year is "**Capable, Adaptive, Partners.**"

**188.** United States renamed its oldest and largest strategically important military command US Pacific Command (PACOM) to \_\_\_\_.

Ans - **Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM)**

**Explanation:**

- At present, US Pacific Command is responsible for all US military activity in greater Pacific region.
- It has about 375,000 civilian and military personnel assigned to its area of responsibility, which also includes India.
- Now renamed INDOPACOM will now extend its reach from Pacific Ocean to Indian Ocean Region.

**189.** India finalized deal to procure S-400 Triumf air defence missile systems for Indian Air Force (IAF) with which country?

Ans - **Russia**

**Explanation:**

- India and Russia deal to procure **S-400 Triumf air defence missile** systems for Indian Air Force (IAF).
- It is long-range air defence missile system is one of most advanced long-range defence systems in the world.
- It is referred to as SA-21 Growler by NATO.
- It is an upgraded version of the S-300 defence system and is manufactured by Almaz-Antey.
- It has been in service in Russia since 2007.

**190.** Indian Navy inducted Landing Craft Utility MK-IV LCU vessel L54 at \_\_\_\_.

Ans - **Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Island.**

**Explanation:**

- LCU L54 has been indigenously designed and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata.
- It is fourth of total eighth Mark IV LCU vessels to be inducted into Indian Navy.

**191.** Indian Navy's six-member all-women Navy crew onboard which vessel which was reached Panaji, Goa after circumnavigating around globe in 254 days under Navika Sagar Parikrama expedition?

Ans - **INSV Tarini**

**Explanation:**

- It was first-ever all women Asian and Indian circumnavigation expedition of globe.



- The expedition had started on September 10, 2017 in Goa was aimed at promoting women empowerment aligned with Government of India's thrust for 'Nari Shakti'.
- INSV Tarini is 55 foot sailing vessel built indigenously in India by M/s Aquarius Shipyard Pvt Ltd, Goa.
- It was inducted into Indian Navy in February 2017.

### Books & Author

192. Who is the author of the book "Across the Bench – Insight into the Indian Military Judicial System"?

Ans - **Gyan Bhushan**

**Explanation:**

- The book 'Across the Bench – Insight into the Indian Military Judicial System' authored by Lt Gen Gyan Bhushan, former Army Commander and Member 'A', Armed Forces Tribunal of Lucknow Bench.

193. The book 'Straight Talk' authored by \_\_\_.

Ans - **Abhishek Manu Singhvi**

**Explanation:**

- Straight Talk, a book penned by **Senior Advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi**, was released by Vice President of India Venkaiah Naidu.

### Important Dates

194. What is the theme of the 2018 International Labour Day? **Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement**

Note:

- International Labour Day celebrated across the world every year **on 1st of May**.
- The day is celebrated to promote and encourage the international labour associations.

195. World Press Freedom Day observed every year on which date? **3rd May**

Note:

- The theme of the 2018 World Press Freedom Day is **Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and the Rule of Law**.
- World Press Freedom Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in December 1993, following the recommendation of UNESCO's General Conference.

196. The 2018 World Cartoonist's Day is observed on which date? **5 May**

Note:

- The World Cartoonist's Day is celebrated every year **on May 5** to honor all those creative ink-stained artists, past and present, the fascinating pieces they have created and the humor they have brought into our lives.

197. World Thalassaemia Day observed every year on which date?

Ans - **8<sup>th</sup> May**

**Explanation:**

- World Thalassaemia Day observed on May 8 to raise awareness about this disease among common public.
- The theme for the day this year is "**Thalassaemia past, present and future: Documenting progress and patients' needs worldwide**".
- Thalassaemia, a blood disorder, is caused by the weakening and destruction of blood cells.

198. The 'World Red Cross Day' is observed every year on which date?

Ans - **8th May**



**Explanation:**

- The '**World Red Cross Day**' is observed on 8th May every year.
- The theme of the 2018 World Red Cross Day is "**Memorable smiles from around the world**".
- The day is observed to commemorate the birth anniversary of '**Henry Dunant**', the founder of the **Red Cross** as well as the founder of International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

199. The 2018 National Technology Day (NTD) is celebrated on which date in India?

Ans - **May 11**

**Explanation:**

- The National Technology Day (NTD) is celebrated every year in India on **May 11**.
- On this day in 1998, India successfully tested its nuclear bombs in **Pokhran, Rajasthan**.

200. World Migratory Bird Day 2018 is celebrated on 12 May every year. What is the theme of this day?

Ans - **Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation**

**Explanation:**

- **World Migratory Bird Day** is a two-day event annually held on the **second weekend of May to highlight the urgency to protect migratory birds and their habitats**.
- This year, it is on **May 12 & 13**.
- **In 2018, the theme** of the World Migratory Bird Day is "**Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation**".
- The first ever World Migratory Bird Day was, however, launched on **April 8-9, 2006**.

201. International Nurses Day is observed each year on which date?

Ans - **12 May**

**Explanation:**

- International Nurses Day is an international day celebrated around the **world on 12 May** (the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth) of each year, to mark the contributions nurses make to society.
- This year theme - **Nurses A Voice to Lead - Health is a Human right**.
- Florence Nightingale born on 12 May 1820 was an English social reformer and statistician, and the founder of modern nursing.
- **Florence Nightingale, also known as the 'Lady with the Lamp,'** was a philosopher of modern nursing and social reformer.

202. The International Day of Families - **15th May**.

- The 2018 theme is "**Families and inclusive societies**".

203. National Dengue Day - **16th May**.

204. The World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) - **17th May**.

**Note:**

- The 2018 theme "Enabling the positive use of Artificial Intelligence for All".

205. The Anti -Terrorism Day - **21st May**.

**Note:**

- On 21 May, 1991 the seventh Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was killed in Tamil Nadu in a campaign by the terrorist and then, V.P. Singh government has decided to observe 21st May as Anti-Terrorism Day.

206. The International Bio-diversity Day is observed every year on which date?

Ans - **22nd May**

**Explanation:**

- The theme of this year is, '**Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity**'.

207. Nepal celebrated its 11th Republic Day on which date?

Ans - **28th May**

**Explanation:**

- On May 28, 2008, the Constituent Assembly of the Himalayan nation declared Nepal the Federal Democratic Republic, abolishing the 240-year-old monarchy.





208. The International Day of UN Peacekeepers is observed across the world on which date?

Ans - **May 29**

**Explanation:**

- The day is observed to honour more than 3700 peacekeepers who have lost their lives while serving the United Nations since 1948, including 129 who died in 2017.
- The theme of the International Day of UN Peacekeepers 2018 is 'UN Peacekeepers: 70 Years of Service and Sacrifice'.
- The first UN peacekeeping mission was established on 29 May 1948.
- The day was first celebrated in 2003.

209. World No-Tobacco Day (WNTD) is observed every year across the world on which date?

Ans - **31st May**.

**Explanation:**

- The theme for world No Tobacco Day 2018 is '**Tobacco and heart disease**'.

### Obituaries

210. Idris Hasan Latif passed away in May 2018. He was a former \_\_\_. **Former Air Chief Marshal**

Note:

- **Former Air Chief Marshal**, Idris Hasan Latif passed away Hyderabad after a brief illness in May 2018.
- He was the first Muslim Chief of Air Staff of the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- He subsequently served as the Indian Ambassador to France and the Governor of Maharashtra.

211. P.P. Lakshmanan who passed away in April 2018, was associated with which field? **Sports**

Note:

- He was a **former President** of the All India Football Federation (AIFF).
- He was the first Indian to be chosen as the member of FIFA's appeal committee (Germany 2006 and South Africa 2010 editions).

212. Ravinder Sharma passed away recently. He was a renowned \_\_\_. **artist**

Note:

- **Renowned artist-philosopher Ravinder Sharma** (also called as Guruji) passed away due to cancer at Kala Ashram in Adilabad, Telangana.

213. Ashok Mitra, passed away recently. He was the former Finance Minister of which state? **West Bengal**

Note:

- Ashok Mitra was an eminent economist, scholar and first Finance Minister in the Left Front government in West Bengal. He was 90.
- He worked for the World Bank, taught at the Delhi School of Economics and Indian Institute of Management Calcutta.
- He was the **Chief Economic Adviser** to the government of India from 1970 to 1972 when Indira Gandhi was the prime minister.

214. Lester James Peiris who passed away in May 2018, was a renowned filmmaker of which country? **Sri Lanka**

Note:

- Lester James Peiris was a renowned filmmaker of **Sri Lanka**.
- He was a veteran **filmmaker of Sinhala cinema** since 1949 and involved in over 28 films, including short films and documentaries.

215. Kottayam Pushpanath, the renowned detective novelist passed away. He was associated with which language? **Malayalam language**

Note:

- Pushpanathan Pillai, better known by the pseudonym Kottayam Pushpanath, was a prolific Malayali author most noted for his detective novels in **Malayalam language**.

216. Keyur Bhushan, the well-known Gandhian & freedom fighter passed away. He belonged to which state?

**Chhattisgarh**

Note:

- Keyur Bhushan (90), the well-known Gandhian, freedom fighter and writer, passed away in Raipur, **Chhattisgarh**.
- He took part in the 1942 Quit India movement as a student in **Raipur**, and was incarcerated.

217. Mansoor Ahmed recently passed away. He was associated with which field?

Ans - **Sports**

**Explanation:**

- **Pakistan's World Cup-winning hockey goalkeeper** Mansoor Ahmed passed away.
- The hockey legend, who was known as the 1994 World Cup hero for Pakistan, had been suffering from heart ailment for the past three years.

218. Noted Hindi film lyricist, Nandram Das Bairagi, popularly known as Balkavi Bairagi, passed away. He was a native of which state?

Ans - **Madhya Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

- **Noted Hindi film lyricist, Nandram Das Bairagi, popularly known as Balkavi Bairagi**, passed away in Madhya Pradesh.
- Bairagi, a Lok Sabha member between 1984 and 1989 and also a former Rajya Sabha MP, was 87.

219. Kalasala' Babu who recently passed away, was a noted actor of which language?

Ans - **Malayalam**

**Explanation:**

- **Noted Malayalam actor 'Kalasala' Babu** (67) died at a private hospital in Kochi.

220. Ankit Chadha who passed away recently, was a renowned \_\_\_.

Ans - **Storyteller**

**Explanation:**

- Renowned **storyteller** Ankit Chadha (30-years) passed away in a tragic accident occurred at Uksan Lake near Kamshet (60 kilo meters away) from Pune.
- **Chadha** was known for his unique style of **storytelling in Urdu**.

221. Rajinder Pal, who passed away recently, was associated with which sports?

Ans - **Cricket**

**Explanation:**

- Former **Delhi cricketer Rajinder Pal** (80), passed away in Dehradun, Uttarakhand on May 9, 2018.
- He had represented the country in one Test match, against England (then known as MCC) during the 1963-64 series at the Brabourne Stadium in Mumbai.

222..C. G **Sudarshan** - Eminent Indian-American theoretical physicist

- Dr. Ennackal Chandy George Sudarshan (Professor at the Texas University) specialized in Quantum Optics and linked Vedanta with modern physics.
- In 2007, the Indian government recognised and awarded the physicist with the second highest civilian award, Padma Vibhushan.

223. Anita Das - **Popular Odia film and veteran TV actress**

224. **Jivya Soma Mashe** - Noted artist

Note:

- He had received the Padma Shri in 2011 for his contribution towards the **Warli painting**.
- In 1976, he got the National Award for the Tribal Art.

225. Urmila Singh, who passed away recently, was the former Governor of which state?

Ans - **Himachal Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

- She was appointed as the governor of **Himachal Pradesh** in 2010.

226. The fourth man to walk on the moon passed away recently. Identify him?

Ans - **Alan Bean**

**Explanation:**



- Alan Bean flew twice into space, first as the lunar module pilot on Apollo 12, the second moon landing mission, in November 1969.
- In July 1973 he was commander of the second crewed flight to the United States' first space station, Skylab.

227. Dr Hemu Adhikari who passed away recently, was a veteran \_\_\_\_.

Ans - **film and theatre actor**

**Explanation:**

- He was known for his cameo in Rajkumar Hirani's 'Lage Raho Munna Bhai' (2006).
- He acted in Sai Paranjpe's 'Katha' and Marathi films like 'Dhyaas Parya' and 'Harishchandrachi Factory'.

228. Yaddanapudi Sulochana Rani who passed away recently, was a veteran novelist of which language?

Ans - **Telugu**

**Explanation:**

- Sulochana Rani along with her women counterparts Arikepudi Kousalya Devi and Ranganayakamma, heralded a new era in Telugu fictional literature since the 1950s.
- Some of Sulochana's famous novels include Murali Krishna, Radha Krishna, Jeevana Tarangalu, Premalekhalu, Secretary, Aathmeeyulu to name a few.

229. Geeta Kapoor who passed away recently, was a veteran \_\_\_\_.

Ans - **Bollywood actor**

**Explanation:**

- Geeta acted in around 100 films such as in Kamal Amrohi's "Pakeezah" and "Razia Sultan".

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