

Weekly Current G.K.

Sr. No. 2018.12.1

DECEMBER 2018

1st Week

Note: weekly GK is also available on Panacea app.

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IMPORTANT DAYS

- **Dec 01** : World AIDS Day
- **Dec 03** : World Disability Day
- **Dec 04** : National Navy Day
- **Dec11** : UNICEF Day
- **Dec 23** : Kisan Diwas
- **Dec 25** : Christmas Day

NATIONAL EVENTS

- **Annual Global Venture Capital Summit 2018 held in Goa** On December 7, 2018, the **Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP)** in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the **Government of Goa** hosted the annual #startupindia **Global Venture Capital Summit** in Goa.
- **Delhi government launched 'One' card for ease of commute on metro, buses** On December 4, 2018, **Delhi** government announced the launch of a common mobility card called '**One**', with a tagline of '**One Delhi One Ride**', for easy commute on public transport.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- **Panama 1st Latin American nation to join Belt and Road Initiative** The Strategic Central American Nation, **Panama** became the first Latin American Country to join China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative after the visit of Chinese President **Xi Jinping** to

Panama. Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Panamanian counterpart Juan Carlos Varela inked 19 separate deals during the bilateral meeting held on 3rd December.

- **UAE passport topped the Global Passport Power Rank 2018: Arton Capital** On December 4, 2018, Arton Capital launched the passport index named – **Global Passport Power Rank 2018**, in which **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** topped the charts, among **197** nations, as the nation having the most powerful passport.

PERSONS IN NEWS

- **Atul Sahai**: On 04th December 2018, the government announced that **Atul Sahai** will be appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of New India Assurance (NIA) for a five year period replacing **G Srinivasan**.

OBITUARY

- On 6th December 2018, 80 years old seven time National Champion and first swimmer to win **Arjuna Award** from Bengal **Arun Kumar shaw** passed away following a prolonged illness in Kolkata. He won the Arjuna Award in 1967.
- **Jayaraman**, On 06th December 2018, noted agriculturalist **Jayaraman**, who pioneered the protection and propagation of indigenous paddy varieties in Tamilnadu, passed away in **Chennai**.

PLACES IN NEWS

- **New Delhi.** On November 30, 2018, **First 2-day India-ASEAN InnoTech Summit** concluded in **New Delhi**. It commenced on November 29, 2018. The theme of the Summit was: ‘**India ASEAN InnoTech Summit: Accelerating towards innovative development**’.
- iii. Participating ASEAN Member Countries: **Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam.**
- **Agra:** On December 3, 2018, the **first** bilateral air exercise **5-day “SHINYUU Maitri-18”** commenced at the Air Force station in **Agra** in northern state of **Uttar Pradesh**. It would conclude on 7th December, 2018.
- i. The theme of the exercise is: ‘**Joint mobility and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) on transport aircraft**’.

AWARDS

- **Tuhin becomes first Indian to scale Sahayadri mountain range** On 3rd December, 2018 **Tuhin Satarkar**, became the first Indian to climb three routes in the treacherous **Sahayadri mountain range** in 12 days, from November 16 to 28.
- **2018 Ballon d’Or: Luka Modric and Ada Hegerberg win awards** On 3rd December 2018, an annual football award, **2018 Ballon d’Or Award** was announced. Real Madrid’s Croatia midfielder **Luka Modric** was named winner of the 2018 Ballon d’Or. **Ada Hegerberg** was named as the **First Recipient of Ballon d’Or Féminin award 2018**. The award functions held in **Paris (France)**.
- **Swachhta Pakhwada of Ministry in Civil Aviation, Government of India: Pawan Hans Ltd, Airports Authority of India and Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi awarded the 3 best performing organizations** From 1st November 2018, a 15 days Cleanliness Drive: **Swachhta Pakhwada** was observed by Ministry of

Civil Aviation to highlight the importance of cleanliness to all the employees by citing the example of Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. Shri Rajiv Nayan Choubey, Secretary (Civil Aviation) inaugurated the event and requested the employees to maintain cleanliness around their workstations. The event was concluded on 15th November 2018. Mr. Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Civil Aviation presented the award to 3 best performing organizations which are **Pawan Hans Ltd, Airport Authority of India (AAI) and Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA)**.

SPORTS

- **Budapest to host 2023 IAAF World Championships** On 4th December 2018, the Hungarian capital **Budapest** was officially confirmed as the host city of the 2023 International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) **World Championships**.
- **Yasir Shah becomes fastest bowler to take 200 Test wickets after Breaking 82 year old Record** On 06th December 2018, **Pakistan’s** leg-spinner **Yasir Shah** became the **fastest** cricketer to take **200 Test wickets in just 33 Tests**, breaking an 82-year-old record, beating **Australian** leg-spinner **Clarrie Grimmett’s** record of 36 Tests set against South Africa in Johannesburg in 1936.
- **Delhi Daredevils renamed as Delhi Capitals ahead of 2019 IPL season** On 4th December 2018, Indian Premier League (IPL) franchise **Delhi Daredevils** were renamed as **Delhi Capitals** and the announcement was made in a function in the capital held by owners GMR Group and JSW Sports.
- **Ullas Narayan wins India’s first international medal in ultra running** On 2nd December 2018, **Ullas Narayan** became the **first Indian individual medal winner** in an **international ultra running** event by winning bronze in the 2018 International Association of Ultra Running

(IAU) 24 Hour Asia & Oceania Championships in Taipei, Taiwan.

BANKING & FINANCE

- **5th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy released by Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** On December 5, 2018, RBI released its **5th Bi-monthly monetary policy** produced by the Monetary Policy Committee chaired by **RBI Governor Dr. Urjit Patel**.

<u>Policy Rates</u>	
Repo Rate	6.5%
Reverse Repo rate	6.25%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate	6.75%
Bank Rate	6.75%

- **Paisabazaar.com launches India's first chance of approval feature for lending products** India's largest online marketplace for financial products, **Paisabazaar.com** has launched a first of its kind feature **Chance of Approval**, that will help loan applicants choose their most-suited lender on its platform in India.
- **India records 2nd highest Fintech adoption rate** On 04th December 2018, According to EY FinTech Adoption Index, **India** has the **second** highest FinTech adoption rate among digitally active consumers at **52** percent, only second to **China** at **69** percent.
- **India's heaviest communication satellite GSAT-11 launched successfully from French Guiana** On 05th December 2018, Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) heaviest and most-advanced high throughput communication satellite **GSAT-11** was successfully launched from the Spaceport in **French Guiana**. The launch vehicle **Ariane 5 VA-246** lifted off from **Kourou Launch Base, French Guiana** carrying India's **GSAT-11** and **South Korea's GEO-KOMPSAT-2A** satellites.

ii. Ariane 5 is one of three launch vehicles operated by Arianespace along with Soyuz and Vega.

iii. The **5,854-kg GSAT-11** will provide high data rate connectivity to users of Indian mainland and islands through 32 user beams in Ku-band and 8 hub beams in Ka-band.

iv. Satellite is configured around ISRO's I-6K Bus and has a designed lifetime of more than 15 years.

- **SpaceX launches India's first privately built satellite ExseedSAT 1** On 3rd December 2018, SpaceX founded by **Elon Musk**, launched India's first privately built satellite **ExseedSAT 1** along with 63 other satellite from 18 countries in the company's largest-ever "rideshare" mission on a twice-reused **Falcon 9 rocket** from the Vandenberg air force base in California, USA.
- **Digital Sky portal: India starts online registration portal for drones, pilots, and operators** On December 1 2018 **Civil Aviation Minister Suresh Prabhu** announced about the a portal called 'Digital Sky' which is a online registration method for drone operators in the country. Both pilots and owners of the drones should be registered in this portal to operate.
 - i. Nano drones can start flying legally already but for drones of micro size and above categories, operators are required to register on the Digital Sky portal.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- Chief of the **Naval Staff Admiral Sunil Lamba**, released a book titled '**Blue Waters Ahoy!**'- chronicling the Indian Navy's history from 2001-2010.
- Ministry of Home Affairs released a booklet titled "**A Handbook for Students on Cyber Safety**" to create awareness among teenagers about online Crimes and Threats.

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

1. Where was the 223rd meeting of the Central Board of Trustees (CBT), EPFO (Employees' Provident Fund Organisation) held on 4th December 2018?
 - 1) New Delhi
 - 2) Mumbai
 - 3) Kolkata
 - 4) Indore
 - 5) None of these
2. Finance ministry has approved _____ rupees investment for FY19 and FY20 to upgrade Doordarshan (DD) and All India Radio (AIR)?
 - 1) Rs 850 crore
 - 2) Rs 670 crore
 - 3) Rs 450 crore
 - 4) Rs 980 crore
 - 5) None of these
3. Where was "Conference on EU-India Partnership for Cultural Heritage Conservation" held on 4th and 5th December 2018?
 - 1) Kolkata
 - 2) Guwahati
 - 3) New Delhi
 - 4) Kochi
 - 5) None of these
4. Which state government launched a new programme for transparency and awareness on various government schemes, called PEETHA (Peoples Empowerment Enabling Transparency and Accountability), on 4th December 2018?
 - 1) Telangana
 - 2) Gujarat
 - 3) Assam
 - 4) Odisha
 - 5) None of these
5. The ____ session of Policy Commission of World Customs Organisation was held in Mumbai from 3rd to 5th December 2018?
 - 1) 80th
 - 2) 75th
 - 3) 68th
 - 4) 91st
 - 5) None of these
6. Where was the second meeting of the newly constituted 'NITI Forum for North East' held on 4th December 2018?
 - 1) Guwahati, Assam
 - 2) Imphal, Manipur
 - 3) Shillong, Meghalaya
 - 4) Itanagar, Arunchal Pradesh
 - 5) None of these
7. Central government announced the inclusion of Gangotri, Yamunotri, Amarkantak and _____ under the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) scheme, on 4th December 2018?
 - 1) Kanyakumari
 - 2) Parasnath
 - 3) Coorg
 - 4) Anantapur
 - 5) None of these
8. Which nation has the most powerful passport, according to Global Passport Power Rank 2018, launched by Arton Capital?
 - 1) United States
 - 2) Singapore
 - 3) United Arab Emirates (UAE)
 - 4) United Kingdom
 - 5) None of these
9. What is the repo rate as per 5th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy released by Reserve Bank Of India (RBI), on 5th December 2018?
 - 1) 6 %
 - 2) 6.25 %
 - 3) 6.75 %
 - 4) 5.75 %
 - 5) None of these
10. GDP (Gross domestic product) of India has slowed down to _____ % in the 2nd quarter of 2018-19, as per 5th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy released by Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?
 - 1) 7.1 %
 - 2) 7.4 %
 - 3) 7.5 %
 - 4) 7.2 %
 - 5) None of these

Answers: 11341 / 12351