

# Weekly Current G.K.

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2<sup>nd</sup> Week

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## IMPORTANT DAYS

- Feb 24 : Central Excise Day
- Feb 28 : National Science Day

## NATIONAL EVENTS

- 13th edition of International Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition 'PETROTECH - 2019' held in New Delhi

The 13<sup>th</sup> edition of PETROTECH-2019 was held at India Expo Mart in Greater Noida, New Delhi from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019. It was organised by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) in association with the Federation of Indian Petroleum Industries under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The theme of PROTECH-2019 was "Shaping the New Energy World through Innovation & Collaboration".

- India's fastest train, Vande Bharat Express, flagged off by PM Narendra Modi

The semi-high-speed Train 18 or Vande Bharat Express was

flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019, from the New Delhi railway station. Vande Bharat Express will travel from Delhi to Varanasi in 9 hours and 45 minutes, with stoppage points at Kanpur and Allahbad (now Prayagraj).

ii. It can run up to a maximum speed of 160 kmph.

iii. The train had been produced indigenously at the Integral Coach Factory, Chennai in 18 months.

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- Macedonia officially changed its name to North Macedonia Ending a long running dispute with Greece, the Republic of Macedonia has officially changed its name to North Macedonia. Greece had been blocking Macedonia's entry into the European Union (EU) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), as it disapproved of the name of the country, as the Greek province of Macedonia

adjoining it has been associated with **Alexander the Great**.

ii. On 6<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2019, NATO member states signed an accession protocol allowing North Macedonia to join the alliance and become the 30<sup>th</sup> member.

- **Hindi becomes the third high court language in Abu Dhabi** Hindi is included as the **third official language** in the **Abu Dhabi court system** with a motive to improve access to justice for foreign workers. Authorities have created bilingual language guides to explain complex **legal terms** in an effort to help people understand court process.
- ii. The other two official languages are Arabic and English.

## PERSONS IN NEWS

- **Sushil Chandra**, President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Sushil Chandra, the chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), as the new Election Commissioner on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.

## OBITUARY

- **Francis D'Souza On 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019**, Former Goa Deputy Chief Minister and BJP Lawmaker, **Francis D'Souza** died in Healthway hospital in **Old Goa** at the age of 64. .
- **Manfred Eigen** German Nobel Prize winning chemist, **Manfred Eigen**, passed away at the age of **91** on **13<sup>th</sup> February, 2019**. He was born in Bochum, Germany.
- **Vijaya Bapineedu**, Telugu director-producer, known for giving several hit films to actor **Chiranjeevi**, passed away on **13<sup>th</sup> February, 2019** at the age of **83** years. He was passed away

in **Hyderabad, Telangana**. He was born in **Andhra Pradesh**.

- Hindi film actor **Mahesh Anand** passed away at age of **57** in **Mumbai**.
- **Albert Finney** On February 9, 2019, Five times Oscar nominated actor **Albert Finney** died at the age of 82 due to chest infection in **London**. The veteran actor was best known for his roles in **Tom Jones, Erin Brockovich and Annie**.

## PLACES IN NEWS

- **New Delhi: World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2019**, the flagship event of 'The Energy and Resources Institute' (TERI), was inaugurated by Vice President **Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu** at **Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi**. It saw the presence of more than 2000 delegates in the fields of sustainable development, energy and environment sectors. The theme of WSDS 2019 was '**Attaining the 2030 Agenda: delivering on our promise**'
- **Jaipur Early Ed Asia 2019**, the two-day event, which is Asia's largest conference on **Early Childhood**, was held at the **City Palace in Jaipur, Rajasthan**. The first-of-its-kind conference in India, saw the participation of 6000 eminent early childhood educators, policy-makers, researchers and other stakeholders from India and foreign countries.

## AWARDS

- **Bradley Cooper** wins PETA's '**Oscat**' award for **A Star is Born : People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)** awarded actor-director **Bradley Cooper** '**Oscat**' award for casting his own dog, rather than one supplied by animal exhibitors, in his movie **A Star is Born**.
- **2019 Grammy Awards:** On 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019, **The 61<sup>st</sup> Annual**

**Grammy Awards Ceremony** to recognize the best recording, compositions and artists of the eligibility year (1<sup>st</sup> October 2017 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018) was held at Staples Center in **Los Angeles, USA**. This year's Grammy Awards was hosted by singer-songwriter, **Alicia Keys**.

- **Childish Gambino and Kacey Musgraves** won the most awards (4 each).
- On 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019, **Dolly Parton** was conferred with the “**MusiCares Person of the Year**”.
- For the first time both “**Song of the Year**” and “**Record of the year**” was awarded to a rap song, “**This is America**”.
- **Canadian Academy conferred Deepa Mehta with Lifetime Achievement award** Acclaimed Indo-Canadian filmmaker, **Deepa Mehta** will be conferred with **Lifetime Achievement Award** by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television. This award will be presented in privilege of Deepa's enormous impact and impression she has had on the essence of Canada's entertainment industry.
  - ii. Deepa Mehta is best known for her trilogy- “**Fire**”, “**Earth**” and “**Water**”.
  - iii. Deepa Mehta was born in India but she had shifted to Canada in 1973 after her marriage. She is currently engaged on Netflix series “**Leila**”.

## SPORTS

- **Clouded Leopard' to be Mascot for National Games 2022:** The Sports and Youth Ministry in the meeting of Executive Committee of the National Games 2022 has chosen the ‘**Smiling Clouded Leopard**’ to be the Mascot for the **National Games 2022**. Meghalaya will host the 2022 National Games, which is coinciding with its 50

years of statehood. It will be the third north-eastern state after Manipur and Assam hosted the National Games in 1999 and 2007, respectively. Clouded Leopard is among the wild cats that live throughout the forests of Garo, Khasi and Jaintia

- **New Zealand wins the T20I series beating India by 2-1** New Zealand won the Twenty20 International (T20I) 3-match series at Seddon Park Ground, Hamilton, New Zealand after beating India in the final match by 4 runs.
- **Jamie Chadwick becomes the first female driver to win MRF Challenge title in Chennai** The 20 years old, Jamie Chadwick from Bath, England made history by becoming the first female driver to win the MRF challenge title after winning 3 out of 5 races in the final round in Chennai.
  - i. She has defeated Max Defourny of Belgium.
  - ii. She won 6 out of 15 races in the series which had started in November and included events in Dubai and Bahrain.
- **Rohit Sharma becomes 1st Indian to smash 100 sixes in T20 Cricket** Indian opener Rohit Sharma became the first man from his country to smash a **century of sixes** in T20I cricket in the second T20 between India and New Zealand held in **Eden Park in New Zealand**.
  - i. He made his T20I **debut** against England but played his first innings against South Africa in **2007 T20I**.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- **NASA to launch SPHEREx mission to investigate Universe** NASA is all set to launch, SPHEREx, a space telescope mission, with an aim to understand the origins of life and the universe, in 2023. The word SPHEREx is the abbreviation of **Spectro-**

**Photometer for the History of the Universe, Epoch of Reionization and Ices Explorer.**

- **Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR), indigenously developed missile system successfully flight tested in Odisha** The second indigenously developed ‘**Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet**’ (SFDR), propulsion - based missile system was successfully flight tested **from ITR, Chandipur, Odisha**, by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** on Friday.
  - i. Unlike conventional rockets that carry propellant and oxidizer, **Ramjet** uses the air as an oxidizer just like a jet engine, and hence, the weight of the fuel required is eliminated.
- **Anti-tank missile “Helina” successfully test-fired in Balasore** India test-fired **Helina**, a helicopter-launched version of the **Nag** anti-tank guided missile, with a hit range of **7-8 km**, from the Odisha Coast on Friday. **Helina** was launched from an Army chopper and the weapon system was tested for its full range at 12:55 PM near the **Integrated Test Range in Chandipur** in the **Balasore District of Odisha**.
  - ii. Developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**, **Helina** is said to be one of the most advanced anti-tank weapons in the world. It is guided by an **Infrared Imaging Seeker (IIR)** operating in the lock-on-before-launch mode.

## **BOOKS & AUTHORS**

- **Malay and Arindam Chaudhari’s new book ‘What Marx Left Unsaid’ released by Manish Tewari.**
- The book “**Law, Justice and Judicial Power – Justice P N Bhagwati’s Approach**” written by Mool Chand Sharma was launched by the Chief

Justice of India, **Shri Justice Ranjan Gogoi.**

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ**

1. Where did PM Narendra Modi inaugurated India’s largest Cancer Institute named National Cancer Institute?
  - 1) Jhajjar, Haryana
  - 2) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
  - 3) Guwahati, Assam
  - 4) Guntur, Andhra Pradesh
  - 5) None of these
2. What is the Name of the First Ayush University that was inaugurated in Kurukshetra, Haryana?
  - 1) Sree Kurukshetra Ayush University
  - 2) Sree National Ayush University
  - 3) Sree Ayush University
  - 4) Sree Krishna Ayush University
  - 5) None of these
3. Where did PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the First ESIC Medical College and Hospital, with the total cost Rs. 595 crore?
  - 1) Chandigarh, Haryana
  - 2) Panipat, Haryana
  - 3) Faridabad, Haryana
  - 4) Panipat, Haryana
  - 5) None of these
4. Name the Campaign addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi which is launched to empower women in Kurukshetra, Haryana?
  - 1) Pradhan Mantri Matritva Vandana Yojana 2019
  - 2) Priyadarshini 2019
  - 3) Rashtriya Mahila Kosh 2019
  - 4) Swachh Shakti 2019
  - 5) None of these
5. Which State/UT hosted the 3rd Indo-German Environment Forum on February 13, 2019?
  - 1) New Delhi
  - 2) Mumbai
  - 3) Bengaluru
  - 4) Kochi
  - 5) None of these

6. Which Ministry had released the Publication on climate actions in India titled “India – Spearheading Climate Solutions” in NewDelhi?
- 1) Ministry of Rural Development
  - 2) Ministry of Science and Technology
  - 3) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
  - 4) Ministry of Earth Sciences
  - 5) None of these
7. Name the Annual Exercise carried out by Indian Army at Deolali Camp near Nashik?
- 1) Exercise Sampriti
  - 2) Exercise Mitra Shakti
  - 3) Exercise Shatrujeet
  - 4) Exercise Topchi
  - 5) None of these
8. Where did Food Processing Industries Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal commissioned the First Aqua Mega Food Park (Godavari Mega Aqua Food Park)?
- 1) Andhra Pradesh
  - 2) Arunachal Pradesh
  - 3) Himachal Pradesh
  - 4) Madhya Pradesh
  - 5) None of these
9. What is the theme of the Challachitram National Film Festival that is to be held Guwahati on March 1, 2019?
- 1) ‘Our Pride, Our Film’
  - 2) ‘Our Nation, Our Pride’
  - 3) ‘Our Film, Our Pride’
  - 4) ‘Our Heritage, Our Pride’
  - 5) None of these
10. Which Country had recently changed its name to end the long running dispute with its neighbouring country Greece?
- 1) Bulgaria changed its name to Republic of South Bulgaria
  - 2) Albania changed its name to Republic of North Albania
  - 3) Republic of Macedonia changed its name to Republic of North Macedonia
  - 4) Romania changed its name to Republic of South Romania
  - 5) None of these
11. Who will be taking over the Chair of the African Union (AU) in 2020 after Egypt’s President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi term ends?
- 1) South Africa’s President, Cyril Ramaphosa
  - 2) Russia’s President Vladimir Putin
  - 3) Egypt’s President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi
  - 4) Libya’s President Mohammed Magariaf
  - 5) None of these

Answers: 14341/ 34143/ 1

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