

Weekly Current G.K.

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1st week

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NEW VACANCIES

- **Total Number of Vacancy 13,487 for RRB JE Recruitment, 2019 Exam**

honour, inaugurated in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The event will conclude on 13th January.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- **Egypt opened West Asia's largest cathedral in its New Administrative Capital** On January 7, 2019, Egypt opened West Asia's largest cathedral in its **New Administrative Capital**, 45 kms away from its capital, Cairo. **President Abdul Fattah al-Sisi** inaugurated the newly-built Cathedral of Nativity on the eve of **Coptic Christmas**.
- ii. Unlike December 25, Coptic Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ on January 7, following the Coptic calendar.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **Jan 9** : NRI Day
- **Jan 12** : National Youth Day
- **Jan 15** : Army Day

NATIONAL EVENTS

- **Kallakurichi announced as 33rd district, after bifurcating Villupuram: Tamil Nadu govt** On January 8, 2019, **Tamil Nadu** chief minister **Edappadi K Palaniswam** announced the formation of a new district **Kallakurichi** by bifurcating Villupuram district which is one of the large districts in the State.
 - With this, the state will now have 33 districts.
 - The decision was taken because the previous coverage of the district Villupuram was huge and it was becoming difficult for the administrators to govern the district.
 - The newly formed region is renowned for its rice production.
- **Union Minister for HRD Shri Prakash Javadekar inaugurates 27th Edition of New Delhi World Book Fair in Pragati Maidan with Sharjah as Guest of Honour** On 5th January 2019, the **27th** edition of the **New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF)**, which has the **UAE's** third largest emirate **Sharjah** as its 2019 guest of

PERSONS IN NEWS

- **Gita Gopinath** :On January 8, 2019, Mysore-born **Gita Gopinath** joined **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** as its **11th** chief economist, thus becoming the **first woman** to occupy the top IMF post.
- **P K Singh** was appointed **secretary** of the **Competition Commission of India (CCI)**.

OBITUARY

- **Dibyendu Palit** On January 3, 2019, renowned **Bengali** writer and Sahitya Akademi awardee **Dibyendu Palit** passed away at 79 in Kolkata. Palit was conferred the Sahitya Akademi for his novel 'Anubhab' in 1998.

- **Ramakant Achrekar** : On January 3, 2019, 1990 Dronacharya Awardee cricket coach **Ramakant Achrekar**, who coached Cricketer Sachin Tendulkar passed away at 86 in Mumbai.

PLACES IN NEWS

- **Secunderabad Railway Station: the first Railway station to hoist Tricolour National flag on a 100 feet tall pole under Railway's order** On January 2, 2019, **Secunderabad Railway Station, in Hyderabad**, became the first railway station of **South Central Railway (SCR)** zone to hoist a huge tricolour on a **100-foot** tall pole. This was done according to the Railway Board's order to hoist the national flag at **75 A1** category railway stations. **Kacheguda, Hyderabad** became the **2nd and 3rd railway Stations** to hoist the 100-foot tall pole.
 - ii. The flag would be guarded by the **Railway Protection Force (RPF)**.

AWARDS

- **Veteran journalist Dinu Randive conferred with lifetime achievement award: Mantralaya and Vidhimandal Vartahar Sangh** On January 6, 2019, Veteran journalist **Dinu Randive** was conferred with the lifetime achievement award for his lifelong contributions in journalism, who started his journalistic career in 1956.
 - i. He also participated in the freedom struggle, the Sanyukta Maharashtra movement and the Goa liberation movement.
 - ii. The award was given by the **Mantralaya and Vidhimandal Vartahar Sangh** which is an association of journalists covering Maharashtra legislature and secretariat.
 - iii. Award winners in other categories included Vishwas Waghmode, Mahesh Tiwari and Prajakta Pol.

- **Indian-origin Singapore student wins gold medals at World Memory Championships** On 2nd January 2019, a 12-year-old Indian-

origin student **Dhruv Manoj** from Singapore has bagged two gold medals at the World Memory Championships held in Hong Kong from 20th December to 22nd December 2018.

i. Dhruv Manoj won in the “**names and faces**” and “**random words**” disciplines, beating 56 other contestants in the “kids category”.

ii. Dhruv has mastered in the Roman memory technique of creating “**memory palaces**”, which works by associating the ideas or objects to be memorized with scenes imagined at familiar locations, such as one's house.

- **French World Cup champions awarded Legion of Honour** On 1st January 2019, the players in **France's** football team which last year defeated **Croatia** to win the World Cup were awarded the **Legion of Honour**, France's highest award for “exceptional service” to the nation, in the New Year's honours list.

SPORTS

- **Maharashtra to host Khelo India Youth Games 2019** From 9th January 2019, **Maharashtra** is going to host the second edition of the **Khelo India Youth Games** which includes completions in 18 different disciplines at **Balewadi Sports Complex in Pune**. The event will conclude on 20th January 2019.
- **Sydney and Brisbane chosen to host \$15 million 24 team ATP Cup in 2020** On 7th January 2019, Australian cities **Sydney** and **Brisbane** have been announced as the first two host locations for the newest team event in men's tennis for the multi-million dollar **ATP Cup** from **2020**.

Key points:

i. The two cities have beaten competition from other parts of **Australia** to host the re-launched team event, the **ATP Cup**, slated to start from **3-12 January** next year with a **24-team** competition. The third Australian city for the tournament is yet to be determined.

ii. The tournament will comprise more than **100** players from 24 nations with **\$15 million** in prize money and **750 ATP Ranking points**.

- **Jasprit Bumrah finishes 2018 as the highest wicket-taker across all formats** 25 years old Indian fast bowler **Jasprit Bumrah** finishes 2018 as the highest international wicket-taker of 2018 with **78 wickets** after taking 9 wickets in the 3rd Test Match against Australia held in Melbourne Cricket Ground, Australia.
- **Virat Kohli Leads India to First-Ever Test Series Win In Australia** On 7th January 2019, Indian Cricket Team skipper, **Virat Kohli** led the country to a maiden series victory on Australian soil, ending a 71-year wait to script a golden chapter in the game's history.

Key Points:

i. India won their first-ever Test series in Australia by a margin of 2-1 after play in the fourth and final Test in Sydney was abandoned due to rain and the match was called off as a draw. India Became the First Asian team to win a Test series in Australia.

- **16-year-old Indian Footballer Rohit Danu became I-League's youngest ever goal-scorer:** On January 5, 2019, 16-year-old Indian Footballer **Rohit Danu** became I-League's youngest ever goal-scorer while scoring a goal on the ongoing match against Aizawl FC at the **Rajiv Gandhi Stadium, Aizawl, Mizoram**. He defeated his team mate **Jitendra Singh** in this title.
- **Virat Kohli fastest to 19000 international runs, breaks Sachin's record** On 3rd January 2019, 30 years old Indian cricket team captain, Virat Kohli beats Cricketing legend Sachin Tendulkar's to become the fastest batsman to score 19000 international runs on the 1st day of 4th Test Match in Sydney against Australia.

BANKING & ECONOMY

- **Government amalgamated three Regional Rural Banks-Punjab Gramin Bank, Malwa Gramin Bank and Sutlej Gramin Bank into a single Bank** With the effect from 1st January 2019, the three Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) – **Punjab Gramin Bank, Malwa Gramin Bank and Sutlej Gramin Bank** has been amalgamated into a single RRB by the Government.
- **China: Lunar rover named 'Yutu-2', lands on the far side of the moon** On January 4, 2019, Lunar rover **Yutu-2** or **Jade Rabbit-2** of the **Chang'e-4** spacecraft made the first-ever soft landing on the far side of the moon. Images were sent back to the Earth via the relay satellite '**Queqiao**'. In Chinese folklore, Yutu is the white pet rabbit of Change, the moon goddess who lent her name to the Chinese lunar mission. China's lunar probe is a part of its '**Made in China 2025**' project. It follows a homegrown Chinese Global Positioning System named **BeiDou Navigation Satellite System**.
- **US scientists successfully launched a telescope from Antarctica that analyses X-rays arriving from distant neutron stars, black holes** Scientists from **Washington University of United states of America (USA)** successfully launched a **telescope (X-Calibur instrument)** from the **McMurdo Station in Antarctica** that will analyze **X-rays arriving from distant neutron stars, black holes and other exotic celestial bodies**.
 - The X-calibur instrument is carried aloft on a helium balloon intended to reach an altitude of 130,000 feet which is four times the cruising altitude of commercial airliners.
 - Neutron stars** are object of very small radius around 30 km and a very high density composed of closely packed neutrons.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- '**A Crusade Against Corruption**': book by **Manohar Manoj** launched by **Vice-Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Harivansh Narayan Singh** in **New Delhi**

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

1. Minister of state (I/C), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep S Puri launched the ____ edition of annual cleanliness survey of Urban India named "Swachh Survekshan 2019"?
 - 1) Second
 - 2) Third
 - 3) Fourth
 - 4) Fifth
 - 5) None of these
2. What was the theme of the 27th edition of the New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF) inaugurated by Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar, on 5th January 2019, in New Delhi?
 - 1) Promote the Habit of Reading
 - 2) Readers with special needs
 - 3) Reading is everyone's right
 - 4) Readers and Publishers
 - 5) None of these
3. Minister of State Mansukh L. Mandaviya stated that ____ Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana' (PMBJP) Kendras have become functional in 35 States/UTs of India, as on January 4, 2019?
 - 1) 4677
 - 2) 5234
 - 3) 6345
 - 4) 3256
 - 5) None of these
4. Which state government announced distribution of free sops to encourage farmers to enroll in the Atal Solar Krishi Pump Yojana, on 5th January 2019?
 - 1) Telangana
 - 2) Uttar Pradesh
 - 3) Bihar
 - 4) Maharashtra
 - 5) None of these
5. Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his one-day visit to Baripada, in Odisha on 5th January 2019, inaugurated projects worth ____?
 - 1) Rs. 4500 crore
 - 2) Rs. 2300 crore
 - 3) Rs. 1234 crore
 - 4) Rs. 5467 crore
 - 5) None of these
6. India and which country exchanged lists of nuclear installations under Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear installations Act, 1988, and list of prisoners for the 27th time, on 1st January 2019?
 - 1) China
 - 2) Pakistan
 - 3) Bangladesh
 - 4) Sri Lanka
 - 5) None of these
7. National Green Tribunal imposed a fine of ____ rupees on Meghalaya government for its failure to curb illegal coal mining in the state, on 4th January 2019?
 - 1) Rs. 100 crore
 - 2) Rs. 150 crore
 - 3) Rs. 200 crore
 - 4) Rs. 250 crore
 - 5) None of these
8. Where will the Indus Food Meet 2019 be organized by the Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) and Union Commerce Ministry on 14th and 15th January 2019?
 - 1) Pune, Maharashtra
 - 2) Rajkot, Gujarat
 - 3) Guwahati, Assam
 - 4) Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh
 - 5) None of these
9. Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his one-day visit to Palamu, Jharkhand on 5th January 2019, inaugurated projects worth a total of ____?
 - 1) Rs. 4800 crores
 - 2) Rs. 3500 crores
 - 3) Rs. 5200 crores
 - 4) Rs. 2900 crores
 - 5) None of these
10. Which country declared the ancient Hindu religious site of Panj Tirath as national heritage, on 2nd January 2019?
 - 1) Myanmar
 - 2) Bangladesh
 - 3) Sri Lanka
 - 4) Pakistan
 - 5) None of these
11. Three Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) namely Malwa Gramin Bank, Sutlej Gramin Bank and ____ have been amalgamated into a single RRB by the Government, with effect from 1st January 2019?
 - 1) Kutch Rural Bank
 - 2) Punjab Gramin Bank
 - 3) Chandigarh Rural Bank
 - 4) Patiala Gramin Bank
 - 5) None of these

Answers: 32141/21424/2