

# Weekly Current G.K.

Sr. No. 2018.5.2

May 2018

2<sup>nd</sup> Week

**Note:** weekly GK is also available on Panacea app.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=panaceabharti.com.panaceabhartiapp>



- **SBI:** 2000 Posts of P.O. in SBI.  
Apply by: 13.05.18
- **SSC CGL** Recruitments 2018.  
Apply by: 04.06.18

influence. The index revealed Japan and India to be countries sharing major power status. While the report labeled Japan as a smart power, it called India the giant of the future.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

- **May 7 : World Athletics Day**
- **May 8 : World Red Cross Day**

## NATIONAL EVENTS

- **India ranked 4th in Asia-Pacific on power index:** The inaugural Asia Power index by the Lowy Institute, an Australian think tank, has ranked India at the 4th position among 25 nations in the Asia Pacific region. The index measures a country's overall power through its weighted average across eight measures of power - economic resources, military capability, resilience, future trends, diplomatic influence, economic relationships, defence networks and cultural

- **India and Guatemala has recently agreed to support each other for Non-permanent membership of UNSC** India and Guatemala have signed a pact for strengthening diplomatic cooperation through Respective Foreign Service Institutes in the educational field. The agreement was recently inked after a meeting between Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and his Guatemala counterpart, Jafeth Cabrera Franco in Guatemala City. Beside this, both the countries agreed to support each other's candidature for Non-Permanent Membership in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Guatemala will support India's candidature for UNSC membership for 2021-22 while New Delhi will do so for 2031-32 for Guatemala. During the talks, Indian side also agreed to the Guatemala's

request for supplying solar panels to its airports. After discussions and in the presence of both the Vice Presidents, both the sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for training of diplomats and a Letter of Intent for training Guatemalan English Teachers in India. These agreements will be valid for three years and will be extended thereafter, if required.

- **Third edition of UNPCAP inaugurated in New Delhi** The third edition of the United Nations Peacekeeping Course for African Partners (UNPCAP) was inaugurated in New Delhi on May 7, 2018. The course, which will be held from May 7- 25, is being conducted by the Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping in India (CUNPK) in partnership with the United States. The first and second editions of the course were held in New Delhi in 2016 and 2017 respectively. The main aim of the course is to build and enhance the capacity of the African Troop Contributing Countries to the UN and to further train the trainers from these countries. The course, which revolves around the concept of training the trainers, is one of the many steps that India has initiated towards active contribution to peace support activities.
- **India, World Bank sign USD 200 million loan agreement for National Nutrition Mission** India on May 8, 2018 signed a loan agreement with the World Bank worth USD 200 million for the National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan). The loan will support Indian Government's National Nutrition Mission that aims to reduce

stunting in 0-6 years old children from 38.4 percent to 25 percent by the year 2022. The Scheme for Holistic Nourishment (POSHAN) Abhiyaan, also known as National Nutrition Mission, was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 8, 2018 at Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan .The initiative, largely, aims to scale-up the interventions supported by the World Bank assisted Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Systems Strengthening and Nutrition Improvement Project (ISSNIP) to all districts in the country over a 3-year period. The loan will support the first phase scale up to 315 districts across all the states and union territories (UTs).

- **NITI Aayog and Google sign SoI to help grow AI ecosystem in India** NITI Aayog and Google on May 7, 2018 signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) to work on a range of initiatives to help build the Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) ecosystem across the country. The SoI was signed by Anna Roy, Advisor, NITI Aayog and Rajan Anandan, Vice President of Google India and South East Asia. Google will train and incubate Indian AI startups in an accelerator program. These startups will be mentored and coached by Google and its affiliates

## **INTERNATIONAL EVENTS**

- **Mahathir Mohamad** was on May 10, 2018 **sworn in as the seventh Prime Minister of Malaysia**, making a stunning comeback to politics 15 years after his retirement. Mohamad claimed election victory in the country's

General Elections 2018, becoming the world's oldest Prime Minister at the age of 92. Mahathir's coalition, Pakatan Harapan, won 121 out of 222 seats. Mahathir's coalition defeated the governing Barisan Nasional (BN) coalition led by Prime Minister Najib Razak, which has been in power for more than 60 years. BN coalition managed to win only 79 seats.

- **India and Panama** on May 9, 2018 signed an agreement on the exemption of visas for the holders of diplomatic and official passports. The two nations also signed an agreement on strengthening cooperation in the field of agriculture. The agreements were signed in the presence of Panama's President Juan Carlos Varela Rodrigues and Vice President and Foreign Minister Isabel de Saint Malo and Indian Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu during his visit to the nation.
- **The President of United States, Donald Trump on May 8, 2018 announced US withdrawal from the landmark 2015 nuclear deal with Iran.** Trump stated through a televised address that the 2015 agreement, which included Germany, France and Britain, was a "horrible one-sided deal that should never ever have been made." He added that the United States "will be instituting the highest level of economic sanction." He stated that any nation that helps Iran in its quest for nuclear weapons could also be strongly sanctioned by the United States. The statements come as a

blow to US allies, which are supporting the deal.

## **PERSONS IN NEWS**

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** was ranked among the 10 most powerful people in the world in the 2018 World's Most Powerful People list that is topped by Chinese President Xi Jinping. As per the World's Most Powerful People list, that was released on May 8, 2018, Reliance Industries (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani is the only Indian businessman to feature in the list of 75 most powerful people. Chinese President Xi Jinping tops the list for the first time, replacing Russian President Vladimir Putin, who slipped to 2nd place after being named as the most powerful person in the world for four consecutive years.
- **Balakumaran** (71), the veteran Tamil novelist, has passed away in Chennai, Tamil Nadu on May 15, 2018. He was famous for his novels like 'Mercury Pookal' and 'Irumbu Kuthiraigal'. Balakumaran was a recipient of a number of awards, including the state government's 'Kalaimamani' honour.
- **Mansoor Ahmed** (49), Pakistan's World Cup-winning hockey goalkeeper, has passed away in Karachi on May 12, 2018. He was known as the 1994 World Cup hero for Pakistan. Mansoor has been a sporting icon in Pakistan, and played a key hand in the team's win in the 1994 World Cup in Sydney.

## SPORTS

### Lewis Hamilton wins Spanish Grand Prix

- Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton has extended his lead at the summit of the Formula One championship after a crushing win at the Spanish Grand Prix.
- Finland's Valtteri Bottas was second while the Dutch Max Verstappen stood third.
- It was the first one-two of the season for Mercedes, which had been slower than Ferrari in the past few races.

## PLACES IN NEWS

- The **Telangana government** has 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. It is expected to provide the much needed breather to the marginal and small farmers who constitute a major chunk of land owners in the State. Under the scheme, each eligible farmer will get at least Rs 4,000 per acre for two crops in a year — kharif in May and rabi in October. The farmers can utilize the assistance either for purchase of seeds, fertilizers, pesticides or any other input requirement as per their requirement. The scheme will cover both agriculture and horticulture crops and benefits all farmers irrespective of the size of their land holdings.
- **Haryana to start 31 government colleges for girls** Haryana government

decided to start 31 government colleges for girls from July 2018. Till the construction of college buildings gets completed, these colleges would run in vacant buildings of government schools or other organizations. The initiative is aimed at promoting education for girls in the state.

- **Madhya Pradesh launches India's first Integrated Control and Command Centre** Bhopal Smart City Development Corporation Ltd (BSCDCL) launched India's first cloud-based Common Integrated Data Centre, Disaster Recovery Centre, and Integrated Control and Command Centre (ICCC). ICCC will enable the State administration to monitor and administer multiple city civic utilities and citizen services across seven smart cities in state through central cloud. These seven cities include Bhopal, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Indore, Ujjain, Satna, and Sagar.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- **The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has developed an atomic clock that will be used in navigation satellites to measure precise location data. Till now, the space agency has been importing the atomic clocks for its navigation satellites from the European aerospace manufacturer Astrium. The atomic clock has been developed by Ahmedabad-based Space Applications Centre (SAC) and is currently undergoing a series of qualification tests. Once tested successfully, the atomic clock will be used in an experimental navigation

satellite to test its accuracy and durability in space. With the development of the atomic clock, ISRO has become one of the few space organisations in the world that are capable to develop this highly sophisticated technology.

- Scientists have found a mineral in a lunar rock that indicates the presence of hidden reserves of water ice under the surface of the Moon, which could be useful for future human exploration.
- A team of scientists from the Tohoku University in Japan found the mineral called Moganite in a lunar meteorite discovered in a desert in northwest Africa. Moganite is a crystal of silicon dioxide and is known to form on Earth in specific circumstances from alkaline fluids. It has never been detected before in samples of lunar rock. In a moganite, there is less water, because moganite forms from the evaporation of water.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- **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. The tests were conducted under the leadership of Former President Dr A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, who was then DRDO Chief, and Dr R Chidambaran, then Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission. A team of more than 100 scientists, technicians and soldiers were involved in the successfully conducted tests.
- **The World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (WRCRCD)** is observed

every year on May 8 to recognize the extraordinary contribution and incredible achievements of the stalwarts and volunteers around the world for helping the people in need anytime, anywhere. The day also marks the birth anniversary Jean Henry Dunant, the founder of International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the recipient of the first Nobel Peace Prize. The 2018 theme “Memorable smiles from around the world” focuses on bringing memorable smiles in people’s faces everywhere.

- **Legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar** has been honoured with the Swara Mauli title by Shankarcharya Vidyanarsimha Bharati Swami at her residence Prabhu Kunj in Mumbai on May 13, 2018. The veteran singer has several awards to her credit in her over 7-decade-long career, including three National Awards. Mangeshkar was awarded the Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian award in the country, in 2001 – the second vocalist, after MS Subbulakshmi to receive the honour.

### SAWEN’s meeting in India

- The South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN), an inter-governmental wildlife law enforcement agency, held its meeting in India for the first time. SAWEN was launched in Bhutan in 2011. In 2016 the Union Cabinet gave permission to adopt the statute of SAWEN. Its member countries are India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan, Pakistan & Maldives.

**CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ**

1. Which country to host the 2018 meeting of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and precursor Chemicals?  
[A] Nepal [B] India  
[C] Thailand [D] Bhutan
2. Which Bollywood personality has been honoured with the Swara Mauli award?  
[A] Jeetendra  
[B] Lata Mangeshkar  
[C] Amitabh Bachchan  
[D] Sridevi
3. Kalasala Babu, the noted Malayalam film-theatre actor has passed away. He belonged to which state?  
[A] Kerala  
[B] Tamil Nadu  
[C] Andhra Pradesh  
[D] Telangana
4. Mansoor Ahmed, the legendary hockey player has passed away. He belonged to which country ?  
[A] Iran [B] India  
[C] Pakistan [D] Bangladesh
5. Which of the following is the China's first home-built aircraft carrier that recently started sea trials?  
[A] Type 003A [B] Type 007A  
[C] Type 005A [D] Type 001A
6. The UNDP has proposed to set up skill development centre in which Indian city to empower vulnerable and marginalised women?  
[A] New Delhi [B] Chennai  
[C] Hyderabad [D] Bangaluru
7. Which Indian city hosted the first meeting of the BIMSTEC Working Group on Customs Cooperation?  
[A] Jaipur [B] New Delhi  
[C] Patna [D] Pune
8. Nandram Das Bairagi, the noted Hindi film lyricist has passed away. He hailed from which state?  
[A] Uttar Pradesh  
[B] Madhya Pradesh  
[C] Rajasthan  
[D] Maharashtra
9. The Rehala Waterfalls is located in which state?  
[A] Andhra Pradesh  
[B] Punjab  
[C] Assam  
[D] Himachal Pradesh
10. What is the theme of the 2018 World Thalassaemia Day (WTD)?  
[A] Access to Safe & Effective Drugs in Thalassaemia  
[B] Economic Recession: Observe – Joint Forces – Safeguard Health  
[C] Enhancing partnership towards patient-centred health systems  
[D] Thalassaemia past, present and future: Documenting progress and patients' needs worldwide

**ABACD/ CBBDD**