

CURRENT AFFAIRS OF JANUARY 2018

The Indian shuttler who has won the Indonesia Masters Women's Singles title defeating Carolina Marin of Spain in the finals	Saina Nehwal
The phrase which has been chosen as the Hindi Word of the Year 2018 by Oxford Dictionary	Nari Shakti
The place in Tamil Nadu where foundation stone for setting up All India Institute of Medical Sciences was laid by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi	Madurai
India's first semi-high speed Train 18 set to run between Delhi and Varanasi has been renamed as	Vande Bharat Express
The theme of 9th National Voters Day observed on 25 January 2019	No voter to be left behind
Naval Air Station Shibpur in the Andaman Islands has been commissioned by the Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Sunil Lamba as	INS Kohassa
The noted Hindi writer, recipient of 2017 Jnanpith Award and author of novels Zindaginama, Mitro Marjani who passed away on 25 Jan 2019	Krishna Sobti
The noted Gujarati poet who has been awarded the Saraswati Samman 2017 by the KK Birla Foundation for his collection named Vakhar	Sitanshu Yashashchandra
The theme of National Girl Child Day observed by the Women and Child Development Ministry on 24 January 2019	Empowering Girls for a Brighter Tomorrow
The Indian cricketer who has become the fastest Indian bowler to claim 100 wickets in 56 one-day internationals surpassing Irfan Pathan's record of 59 ODIs	Mohammad Shami
The place at which Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Museum was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on the occasion of 122nd birth anniversary of Netaji	Red Fort, New Delhi
The Indian sea port which has become the only port to be listed in top 30 container ports globally, as per the latest Lloyds Report	Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, Mumbai
The State which has declared the Pakke Paga Hornbill Festival to be its State Festival	Arunachal Pradesh
The denomination of Indian currency note above which all other denominations have been banned by the Government of Nepal	Rs. 100
The largest coastal defence exercise conducted by the Indian Navy from 22 to 23 Jan 19 along the entire 7516.6 coastline of India and involving all the 13 coastal States and UTs including fishing and coastal communities is named	Exercise SEA VIGIL
The venue of 15th Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas being observed from 21 to 23 January 2019 with the theme "Role of Indian Diaspora in building New India"	Varanasi (U.P.)
The Indo-Myanmar joint military exercise being conducted at Chandimandir military station in Chandigarh is named	IMBEX 2018-19
The venue of Gandhi Resurgence Summit inaugurated by the President Shri Ram Nath Kovind in honour of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi	Prayag Raj (U.P.)
The city in which National Museum of Indian Cinema was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi	Mumbai
The venue of 9th International Micro Irrigation conference being held from 16 to 18 January with the theme Micro Irrigation and Modern Agriculture	Aurangabad, Maharashtra
The venue of 1st National Level Sports Meet for Eklavya Model Residential Schools being held from 14 to 16 January 2018	Hyderabad
The Indian mountaineer who has become the youngest man in the world (and the first Indian) to scale seven highest peaks across seven continents	Satyarup Siddhanta
The Indian chess player who has become the youngest Indian (and 2nd youngest in the world) to become a Grandmaster at the age of 12 years 7 months and 17 days	D Gukesh
The State which has become the first in the country to 10% quota for Economically Weaker Sections in educational institutions and government jobs	Gujarat
The IWF President who has been chosen to be the Indian Chef de Mission (person in charge of a sports team) for the Tokyo Olympics 2020	Birendra Prasad Baishya
The State which has become the first in the country to launch One Family One Job programme for its people	Sikkim

The online campaign launched by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development to discover and celebrate the exceptional achievements of women is named	Web - Wonder Women (#www)
The theme of National Youth Parliament Festival 2019 launched by the Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs and Sports Col Rajyavardhan Rathore (Retd)	Be The Voice of New India and Find solutions and contribute to policy
The denomination in which a commemorative coin was released by the PM Shri Narendra Modi to mark the birth anniversary celebrations of Sikh Guru Shri Gobind Singh (the coin has the image of Patna Sahib)	Rs. 350
The new limit prescribed by GST council exempting small businesses from GST with effect from 01 April 2019	Rs. 40 lakhs
The President of Venezuela who has been sworn in for the second term	Nicolas Maduro
The place in Gujarat where the Union Cabinet has given its approval for setting up of AIIMS	Rajkot
The places in Jammu and Kashmir where the Union Cabinet has given its approval for setting up of AIIMS	Vijay Pur and Awantipora
The three places at which the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has approved the proposal to set up Indian Institute of Skills (IISs)	Kanpur, Mumbai and Ahmedabad
The venue of the First Global Aviation Summit to be held from 15 to 16 January 2019 with the theme "Flying for All"	Mumbai
The five-member high-level committee constituted by the RBI to encourage digitisation of payments and enhance financial inclusion is headed by	Nandan Nilekani
The irrigation project which has entered into the Guinness Book of World Records for pouring 32,100 cubic meters of concrete in 24 hours	Polavaram project
The venue of the second edition of Khelo India Youth Games being held from 10 to 20 January 2019	Pune, Maharashtra
The organisation which has been awarded the Exhibitor of the Year Award at the 106th Indian Science Congress held at Lovely Professional University	DRDO
The Indian-American economist who has become the first female to be appointed the Chief Economist of the International Monetary Fund	Gita Gopinath
The Awami League candidate who has taken oath as the Prime Minister of Bangladesh for the third time	Sheikh Hasina
The Indian mountaineer who has become the first woman amputee to climb Mt Vinson, the highest peak in Antarctica	Arunima Sinha
The venue of 106th session of Indian Science Congress held from 3 to 7 January 2019 with the focal theme "Future India: Science and Technology"	Lovely Professional University, Jalandhar
The country which has renounced its membership with OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) with effect from 01 Jan 2019	Qatar
The two public sector banks whose amalgamation has been approved by the Union Cabinet with Bank of Baroda as the transferee bank	Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank
The new Chairman of Railway Board who has been appointed to succeed Ashwani Lohani who retired on 31 Dec 2018	Vinod K. Yadav
The coach of Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar, Vinod Kambli etc. and recipient of Dronacharya Award (1990) and Padma Shri (2010) who passed away on 02 Jan 2019	Ramakant Achrekar
The two countries which have officially withdrawn their membership from UNESCO from 01 Jan 19 accusing it of bias against Israel (the decision to withdraw had been announced in 2017)	United States and Israel
The veteran Bollywood actor, screenwriter, comedian and director who passed away on 31 Dec 2018	Kader Khan

Australian Open 2019

Title	Winner	Runner-up
Men's Singles	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)	Rafal Nadal (Spain)
Women's Singles	Naomi Osaka (Japan)	Petra Kvitova (Czech Republic)
Mens's Doubles	Pierre-Hugues Herbert and Nicolas Mahut (France)	Henri Continen (Finland) and John Peers (Australia)
Women's Doubles	Samantha Stosur (Australia) and Zhang Shuai (China)	Timea Babos (Hungary) and Kristina Mladenovic (France)
Mixed Doubles	Barbora Krejckikova (Czech Republic) and Rajeev Ram (USA)	Astra Sharma and John-Patrick Smith (Australia)

Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar

- First awarded in 2019 Frequency: Annual
- To be awarded every year on: 23 January Cash component: Rs. 51 lakhs
- First recipient: 8th Battalion of National Disaster Response Force

New Delhi World Book Fair 2019

- Venue: Pragati Maidan
- Organised by: National Book Trust and India Trade Promotion Organisation Dates: 05 to 13 January 2019
- Guest Country: Sharjah
- Theme: Books for Readers with Special Needs Inaugurated by: Shri Prakash Javadekar

The Constitution (124th) Amendment Bill 2019 The Constitution (103rd) Amendment Act 2019

2. In article 15 of the Constitution, after clause (5), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

- ‘(6) Nothing in this article or sub-clause (g) of clause (1) of article 19 or clause (2) of article 29 shall prevent the State from making,—
- any special provision for the advancement of any economically weaker sections of citizens other than the classes mentioned in clauses (4) and (5); and
- any special provision for the advancement of any economically weaker sections of citizens other than the classes mentioned in clauses (4) and
- (5) in so far as such special provisions relate to their admission to educational institutions including private educational institutions, whether aided or unaided by the State, other than the minority educational institutions referred to in clause (1) of article 30, which in the case of reservation would be in addition to the existing reservations and subject to a maximum of ten per cent. of the total seats in each category.
- Explanation.—For the purposes of this article and article 16, "economically weaker sections" shall be such as may be notified by the State from time to time on the basis of family income and other indicators of economic disadvantage.’

3. In article 16 of the Constitution, after clause (5), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

- "(6) Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any provision for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any economically weaker sections of citizens other than the classes mentioned in clause (4), in addition to the existing reservation and subject to a maximum of ten per cent. of the posts in each category."

India - Australia Test Series 2018-19

SN	Venue	Winner	Player of the match
1.	Adelaide	India	Cheteswar Pujara
2.	Perth	Australia	Nathan Lyon
3.	Melbourne	India	Jasprit Bumrah
4.	Sydney	Drawn	Cheteswar Pujara
	Player of the Series: Cheteswar Pujara		

Bharat Ratna

1. **Shri Pranab Mukherjee**
2. **Shri Bhupen Hazarika**
3. **Shri Nanaji Deshmukh**

India - Australia ODI Series 2019

SN	Venue	Winner	Player of the match
1.	Sydney	Australia	Jhye Richardson
2.	Adelaide	India	Virat Kohli
3.	Melbourne	India	Yuzvendra Chahal
	Player of the Series: MS Dhoni		

Launch of Microsat-R and Kalamsat-V2

- Launch vehicle: Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C44) Launch date: 24 Jan 2019
- Launched from: Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota Microsat-R is a 700 kg satellite for DRDO.
- Kalamsat V2 is a 10cm cube, 1.2 kg communication satellite developed by students and Chennai-based Space Kidz India and the first to use the rocket's fourth stage as an orbital platform.

ICC Awards 2018

- Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year - **Virat Kohli** (India)
- Men's Test Cricketer of the Year - **Virat Kohli** (India)
- Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year - **Virat Kohli** (India)
- Men's Emerging Cricketer of the Year - **Rishabh Pant** (India)
- Men's Associate Cricketer of the Year - **Calum McLeod** (Scotland)
- Men's T20I Performance of the Year - **Aaron Finch** (Australia) for 172 against Zimbabwe in Harare in July, 2018
- David Shepherd Trophy for ICC Umpire of the Year - **Kumar Dharmasena** (Sri Lanka)
- ICC Spirit of Cricket - **Kane Williamson** (New Zealand)
- Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Award for Women's Cricketer of the Year: Smriti Mandhana (India)
- Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year: Smriti Mandhana (India)
- Women's T20I Cricketer of the Year: Alyssa Healy (Australia)
- Women's Emerging Player of the Year: Sophie Ecclestone (England)
- ICC Fan's Moment of the Year: India winning U19 World Cup
- Note: Virat Kohli has also been named the captain of ICC's test and ODI teams for the year 2018.

Gandhi Peace Prize

- 2015 - **Vivekananda Kendra**, Kanyakumari for their contribution in Rural Development, Education, Development of natural resources.
- 2016 - **AkshayaPatra Foundation** for its contribution in providing mid-day meals to millions of children across India and **Sulabh International** for its contribution in improving the condition of sanitation in India and emancipation of manual scavengers.
- 2017 - **EkalAbhiyan Trust** for their contribution in providing Education for Rural and Tribal Children in remote areas pan India, Rural Empowerment, Gender and Social Equality
- 2018 - **Shri YoheiSasakawa** for his contribution in Leprosy Eradication in India and across the world.

Vodafone Premier Badminton League 2019 (V-PBL)

- Venues: Mumbai, Hyderabad, Pune, Ahmedabad, Bengaluru
- Teams: Ahmedabad Smash Masters, Awadhe Warriors, Bengaluru Raptors, Chennai Smashers, Delhi Dashers, Hyderabad Hunters, Mumbai Rockets, North Eastern Warriors, Pune 7 Aces (Total 9)
- Winner: **Bengaluru Raptors** Runners-up: **Mumbai Rockets**
- Theme: Books for Readers with Special Needs Inaugurated by: Shri Prakash Javadekar

Padma Awards 2019 Padma Vibhushan

- Art-Vocal-Folk: **Ms. Teejan Bai**
- Public Affairs: **Shri Ismail Omar Guelleh (Djibouti)**
- Trade & Industry - Infrastructure: **Shri Anilkumar Manibhai Naik**
- Art-Acting-Theatre: **Shri Balwant Moreshwar Purandare**

Padma Bhushan

- Trade and Industry - Technology: **Shri John Chambers (USA)**
- Public Affairs: **1. Shir Sukhdev Dhindsa, 2. Shri Pravin Gordhan (South Africa), 3. Shri Kariya Munda and 4. Shri Hukumdev Narayan Yadav**
- Trade and Industry - Food Processing: **Shri Mahashay Dharam Pal Gulati**
- Social Work : **Shri Darshan Lal Jain**
- Medicine - Affordable Healthcare: **Shri Ashok Laxmanrao Kukade**
- Art-Music-Sitar: **Shri Budhaditya Mukherjee**
- Art-Acting-Film: **Shri Mohanlal Viswanathan**
- **Nair** Science & Engineering-Space: **Shri S Nambi Narayan**
- Literature & Education (Journalism): **Shri Kuldip Nayar (Posthumous)**
- Sports-Moountaineering: **Ms. Bachendri Pal**
- Civil Service: **Shri VK Shunglu**

TATA Open (Maharashtra) 2019

- Venue: Pune
- Mens Singles Winner: **Kevin Anderson** (South Africa) Mens Singles Runners-up: **Ivo Karlovic** (Croatia)

- Mens Doubles Winner: **Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan**

Golden Globe Awards 2019

Best Motion Picture: Bohemian Rhapsody

Best Performance in a Motion Picture – Drama

1. Actor: Rami Malek (Bohemian Rhapsody)
2. Actress: Glenn Close (The Wife)

Best Performance in a Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy

1. Actor: Christian Bale (Vice)
2. Actress: Olivia Colman (The Favourite)

The film which received the most nominations (6) - **Vice**

Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE)

Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE) project is a World Bank assisted-Government of India project with the objective of improving the relevance and efficiency of skills training provided through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and apprenticeships. The financial agreement was signed between Government of India and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) on 19th December, 2017 and the closing date of the project is November, 2022. It is a Central Sector Scheme (CSS) with a budget outlay of INR 2200 Crore covering the following 4 result areas:

1. Improved performance of ITI.
2. Increased Capacities of State Governments to support ITIs and Apprenticeship Training
3. Improved Teaching and Learning.
4. Improved and Broadened Apprenticeship Training.

Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood (SANKALP)

- Two new Skill Development Schemes have been approved by the Govt namely (i) Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood (SANKALP); and (ii) Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE).
- The Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood (SANKALP) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a project of total size US Dollar 675 million, including World Bank assistance of US Dollar 500 million, in two tranches of US Dollar 250 million each, with a six-year implementation schedule. The main objectives of the project are:
 1. Creating convergence among all skill training activities, both State-led and Government of India funded, at the state level;
 2. Improving quality of skill development programs through enablers such as building a pool of quality trainers and assessors, developing model curriculum and content, and standardizing assessment and certification;
 3. Establishing robust monitoring and evaluation system for skill training programs;
 4. Providing access to skill training opportunities to the disadvantaged sections; and
 5. Creating industry led and demand driven skill training capacity.

Source: <https://www.mapsofindia.com/maps/schoolchildrens/statesandcapitals.htm>
