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## **JANUARY – 2018**

### **TAMIL NADU**

- 1) **R.S. Puram (B2) Police Station in Coimbatore** has been selected as the **best& No.1 smart Police Station** in India and **Anna Nagar (K4) Police Station in Chennai** has been ranked as the **5<sup>th</sup>best PoliceStation** in India.
- 2) **Tamil Nadu Awards 2018:**
  - Thiruvalluvar Award – Ko. Periyannan(2018)
  - ThanthaiPeriyar Award – P.Valarmathi
  - **Ambedkar Award** –Dr.K J. George
  - Kamarajar Award – T.R. Dinakaran
  - Anna Award – A. Subramanian
  - BharathiyarAward –Su. Balasubramanian @ Barathibalan
  - BharathidasanAward – K. Jeeva Bharathi
  - Thiru. Vi. Ka Award –Vai. Balakumaran
  - Ki.Aa. Pe. Viswanathan Award – P. MaruthaNayagam

(\***Except for Thiruvalluvar** Award all are given for 2017)
- 3) **Amma Two Wheeler Scheme** has been introduced in Tamil Nadu on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018: Government gave 50% subsidy for women about 18-40 yrs old to buy a new **two-wheeler**.Subsidy Amount claimed Maximum of **Rs.25,000/- or 50% of vehicle cost**. **The last date for applying** the subsidy was **05<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018** but it extended up to 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018. **Andfinally, the scheme will be launched on 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018.**
- 4) **SrirangamRanganathaswamy temple** in Tiruchirapalli was awarded the **UNESCO Award of Merit**.
- 5) Governor of TN Banwarilal Purohit, Inaugurated the **171<sup>st</sup>Araadhanai Music festival begins in Thiruvaiyaru.**
- 6) **Charlie-435:** The patrol coast guard vessel 'Charlie-435' is coastal security between Chennai **and Kanyakumari** in the Eastern Coastal region.
- 7) **National Youth Award:Masha Nazeem** from Nagercoil receives the National Youth Award

- 8) **Udangudi thermal power project** is set to come up in **Thoothukudi** district.
- 9) Tamil Nadu Government launched an **“e-governance policy – 2017”** under the TN Government’s Vision 2023 plan.

### **NATIONAL**

- 1) The Assamese and Manipuri language was included in the Prime Minister's **office (PMO)** website [www.pmindia.gov.in](http://www.pmindia.gov.in). Currently, the site contains 13 languages.
- 2) **eSamvad** is a portal related to Women & Child Development. By the Ministry of Women and Child Development to provide a platform to interact with NGOs, civil society and concerned citizens.
- 3) **e-Hospital:** Odisha has launched an e-Hospital Management Information System (Oe-HMIS) to provide **efficient** and hassle-free health services to the public.
- 4) **NARI –online portal** aims to provide women citizens with easy access to information on government schemes and initiatives for women.
- 5) Arunachal Pradesh was the 5<sup>th</sup> officially declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) state. It is **the second** State from Northeast, after Sikkim. Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, and Haryana to be declared as ODF.
- 6) **Zojila Tunnel** is a 2-lane bi-directional single tube tunnel with 14.15km long from Srinagar-Leh connecting NH-1A in Jammu and Kashmir.
- 7) **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** was celebrated at Singapore on 9th Jan 2018. Theme: "Ancient Route, New Journey: Diaspora in the Dynamic **ASEAN-India Partnership.**"
- 8) **Swachh Survekshan 2018:** **Cleanest** City is INDORE; Trichy ranked as 13<sup>th</sup> place.
- 9) **Namami Ganga project:** National **Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)** has approved five projects for river cleaning.
- 10) 18<sup>th</sup> All India Whips Conference was held at Udaipur, Rajasthan.

- 11) **Saksham 2018:** The Aim is to create awareness among the people, on the need for conservation and effective utilisation of petroleum products.
- 12) **Vajra Prahar** is an **Indo-US Special Forces** joint military training exercise held at Seattle, United States.
- 13) **VINBAX-2018** is the Bilateral Army Exercise between **India and Vietnam** was held at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.
- 14) **SAREX-18** is a joint search and rescue exercise between the **Indian Coast Guard and Japan Coast Guard** in the Bay of Bengal off the Chennai coast.
- 15) **INS KARANJ:** Indian Navy has launched **Scorpene class submarine INS Karanj** at the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd, Mumbai, Maharashtra. It is the third Scorpene class submarine.
- 16) **MIHIR:**It is a supercomputer which has **6.8 PetaFlops** launched by **National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) at Noida**, which can able to predict extreme weather events, Tsunami forecasts, cyclones, earthquakes etc.,
- 17) **Pratyush:** It is a **fourth fastest supercomputer** which has **6.8 PetaFlops** in **the world** to dedicate for weather and climate research designed by Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM).
- 18) **Zero Budget Natural Farming:****Himachal Pradesh Government** has launched this project to promote organic farming & aims to increase the natural product and farmer's income by 2022
- 19) **StreeSwabhimani:** Theaim is to improve awareness on **menstrual health and hygiene of women.**
- 20) **The government** announced **4 schemes to promote young scientists namely**, Teacher Associateship for Research Excellence (**TARE**) Scheme, Overseas Visiting Doctoral Fellowship, Distinguished Investigator Award (**DIA**) and AWSAR (**Augmenting Writing Skills for Articulating Research**).

- 21) The **1<sup>st</sup> International Dam Safety Conference** was held in Kovalam, Kerala. **Dam Health And Rehabilitation Monitoring Application (DHARMA) app** were launched during this conference.
- 22) **Year of Millets 2018**: The Union government has decided to declare 2018 as the '**National Year of Millets**'.
- 23) **Maharashtra** government announced **1% reservation for orphans in government jobs**.
- 24) **7<sup>th</sup> Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav 2018** was held in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**.
- 25) **Umesh Sinha Committee**: The Election Commission has constituted 14 member committee to suggest the changes in Section 126 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 in view of social media expansion.
- 26) **Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)**: The Union Home Ministry is planning to set up the I4C in New Delhi.
- 27) **Gudiya helpline**: Himachal Pradesh government introduced a **24\*7 helpline** for reporting crimes against women.
- 28) **India's 1<sup>st</sup> National Park for differently abled people** was set up **Hyderabad, Telangana**.
- 29) **Flamingo Festival**: The festival was celebrated in **Pulicat lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu – Andhra Pradesh Border**.
- 30) **Kite Festival**: The International Kite Festival was held at Sabarmati River, **Ahmedabad, Gujarat**.
- 31) **Garbage Festival: Kachra Mahotsav**, the Raipur Municipal Corporation in **Chhattisgarh** has organised the **1<sup>st</sup> garbage festival of the nation**.
- 32) **Muhafiz scheme: Jammu & Kashmir** launched the scheme for providing socio-economic security for workers in the unorganised sector of the state.
- 33) **20 MLA's** from AamAdmi **Party was disqualified** under the **Office of Profit**.

- 34) **UIDAI** has introduced a **two-tier security** feature for AADHAAR viz., Virtual ID and Limited KYC to address the privacy concerns.
- 35) **Indu Malhotra** is the First woman lawyer to be directly appointed as a Supreme Court judge.
- 36) **National Youth Festival: The 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of this festival was held in New Delhi** on the occasion of birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.
- 37) **Kolkata was the 1<sup>st</sup> metro city in India to have the floating market.** The floating market is located on the lake at Patuli, Kolkata.
- 38) **Bihar government** has banned the manufacture and sale of electronic cigarettes (**e-cigarettes**).
- 39) **Haryana** was the 1<sup>st</sup> state in the country to launch a **High-Risk Pregnancy (HRP) portal**.
- 40) **Delhi becomes the 1<sup>st</sup> city in India to launch the common mobility card for both bus and metro rides.**
- 41) **Maharashtra** is the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian State to introduce the **Public Cloud Policy**.
- 42) The **Bhanakpur village in Faridabad district of Haryana** planned to begin their day by **listening to the national anthem at 8 am**. This village was 2<sup>nd</sup> in India to introduce the system. Jammikunta, Karim Nagar District (Telangana) was the 1<sup>st</sup> village to implement this system.
- 43) Union Government has approved the **West Bengal's new logo**. The logo contains the **"Biswa Bangla" theme with Ashoka Pillar**.
- 44) **Jal Marg Vikas Project:** Aim of the project is to start the commercial navigation in the NW-1 (**Haldia – Varanasi = 1,380km**) on the river Ganga. **The ultimate aim** is to navigate the ship with the payload of 1500 tonnes over NW-1.
- 45) **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2017** has passed **by both** the houses of the parliament.

- 46) GAIL made the contract with **Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga** for making the natural gas pipeline of about 400-km from **Dobhi (Bihar) to Durgapur (West Bengal)**.
- 47) GAIL is going to set up India's first coal to gas conversion plant in Odisha.
- 48) **Raisina Dialogue:** Raisina Dialogue **is India's** premier foreign policy conference. The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition this conference was held in **New Delhi on Jan 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018**.
- 49) **iCREATE:** **International** Centre for Entrepreneurship And Technology (iCreate) is an independent center to promote **'Start-up India'** and it was started at Ahmadabad.
- 50) **Pradhan Mantri SurakshitMatritva Abhiyan:** The aim of the scheme is to ensure **free check-ups to pregnant women on 9<sup>th</sup> of every month** at government health centres and hospitals in both rural and urban areas for **ensuring a safe pregnancy**.
- 51) **Delhi Declaration** was taken in **25<sup>th</sup> ASEAN summit** which was held in **New Delhi on Jan 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. The Declaration having a common approach **to counter-terrorism** and sought a comprehensive approach to combat terrorism through close cooperation.
- 52) 26<sup>th</sup> edition of the **World Book Fair** was held in the **New Delhi**.
- 53) **Matunga Railway station** in Mumbai was the **1<sup>st</sup> All Women Railway Station in India**.
- 54) **Dharma – Dhamma Conference: 4<sup>th</sup> edition** of this conference was held in the **Nalanda University, Bihar** on Jan 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- 55) **NFHS-4:** According to the **National Family and Health Survey**, Delhi is the Richest State in India and the Jain Community is the Wealthiest Community in India.
- 56) **Afzal Amanullah Committee:** Based on the Recommendation of this Committee, Government has decided **to end the Haj Subsidy** from this year.

- 57) **Malimath Committee** is for the reforms in the **criminal justice system** (CJS).
- 58) **AMRIT SCHEME: Affordable Medicine and Reliable Implants for Treatmentscheme** are used for **poor people in the treatment of cancer and heart diseases**.
- 59) National Medical Commission Bill, 2017 was introduced in Lok Sabha.
- 60) Traditional **Sangrai dance** of Tripura was presented **in Republic Day parade for the first time**.
- 61) **Maharashtra won the Best tableau prize in Republic Day parade 2018**
- 62) **National Festival of this year:**Central government is likely to declare (*Medaram'sSammakka-Sarakka or SaralammaJatara*) a national festival of this year which is celebrated by **Koya tribe in Telangana**.
- 63) **Operation Digital Board:** The Central Advisory Board of Education passed a resolution to take steps towards Operation Digital Board. **The aim is to introduce the digitally enabled classrooms**.
- 64) *238<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of India's 1<sup>st</sup>newspaper, the Bengal Gazette was celebrated.*
- 65) **Nilambur Teak from Kerala got the GI Tag.**
- 66) 12<sup>th</sup>International festival of arts and artists was held in **Bhubaneshwar, Odisha**.
- 67) **Paytm Payments Bank** has announced its partnership with **IndusInd Bank**.
- 68) *Reliance JioInfo comm. Ltd* is planning to create its own **cryptocurrency** called **JioCoin**.
- 69) **BATTLE OF KOREGAON:**200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Koregaonwas celebrated in **Maharashtra**.
- 70) **Pradhan Mantri Swasthya SurakshaYojana:** Under this yojana new **AIIMS in Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh)** was established on Jan **3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**.



- 71) **Mukhyamantri Kalakar Sahayata Yojana: Odisha Government** has launched this yojana to provide financial assistance for the *literature and cultural artists of state*.
- 72) **Dhanu Yatra:** It is one of the biggest **open-air theatre festivals** in the world which was held in **Odisha**.
- 73) **North Koel Reservoir Project:** The project was initiated in **Bihar and Jharkhand**.
- 74) The book **“Imperfect”** was written by **Sanjay Manjrekar** (Former Indian Cricketer).
- 75) The book **“The Heartfulness Way”** was written by **Kamlesh Patel**.
- 76) The book **“Majuli: Resources and Challenges”** was written and edited by **Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti** and published by Authorspress.

### **INTERNATIONAL**

- 1) **Sister State Agreement: The Andhra Pradesh Government and the Canton of Zurich (Switzerland)** signed a letter of intent, to **promote mutual prosperity and development**.
- 2) Recently **Israel has withdrawn** its **membership from the UNESCO**.
- 3) **Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates** have introduced the **Value Added Tax (VAT) for the 1<sup>st</sup> time. 5% VAT is set for major goods**.
- 4) China has established an underwater surveillance network between the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea.
- 5) **Turkey's endangered "bird language" enters UNESCO list**.
- 6) **Iceland** has become the 1<sup>st</sup> country to legalise the **equal pay for both genders at their workplaces**.
- 7) **Six countries joined as the non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.** (Namely: Equatorial Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, and the Netherlands).

- 8) *Ecuador has granted citizenship to Wiki Leaks founder Julian Assange, who has been living in asylum at the nation's embassy in London for more than five years.*
- 9) **The world's largest solar-thermal power plant** has to be set up in **Port Augusta, South Australia.**
- 10) *Iran has banned the **English from primary schools** across the country.*
- 11) **IRON FIST:** Joint military exercise between the **US and Japan.**
- 12) **SMOG TOWER:** China has built the world's largest air purifier in Xian, China to fight the country's smog problem.
- 13) **Maitre-2: 2<sup>nd</sup> bus service** started from **Agartala to Kolkata** via Dhaka was launched. The first Maitre bus service was launched in 2015.
- 14) *Israel's Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu** recently visited India.*
- 15) India has excluded Pakistan from the list of SAARC member countries with which it will be connecting its National Knowledge Network.
- 16) **China** has released the **1<sup>st</sup> official Arctic policy white paper**, outlining its ambition for a Polar Silk Road.
- 17) **Special Watch List:** **the US** recently have placed Pakistan on a 'Special Watch List' and also withholding USD 1.15 billion military aid.
- 18) **China** planned to build its **2<sup>nd</sup> naval base in Pakistan.**
- 19) **Ice festival:34<sup>th</sup> International ice and snow festival** opened in **Harbin, China.** *It is the world's largest ice festival.*
- 20) *1<sup>st</sup> Bilateral security dialogue* between **India and Indonesia** was held in New **Delhi to combat terrorism.**
- 21) **China becomes Nepal's 2<sup>nd</sup> internet service provider** by ending **India's internet access.**
- 22) **Jeff Bezos, CEO of Amazon becomes the richest person in the world.**

## **ECONOMICS**

- 1) **Ashok Dalwai committee:** Aim of the committee is to **doubling the Farmer's Income (DFI)**.
- 2) **Electoral Bonds: India is the 1<sup>st</sup> Country** to having a unique bond for an electoral funding.
- 3) Many State governments follow the **Price deficiency payment (PDP)** schemes to cover farmers' losses.
- 4) **CAG** released a performance audit report of FSSAI.
- 5) FSSAI issued the rules and regulations for an organic food in the country.
- 6) **Inclusive Development Index:** India was ranked **62<sup>nd</sup> among 74 emerging economic countries** on World Economic Forum's Inclusive Development Index. Norway Ranked top and Mozambique ranked as last.
- 7) International Labour Organization has released the **World Employment and Social outlook, 2018**.
- 8) India ranked 177 out of 180 in recently released **Environmental Performance Index**. Switzerland Ranked top and Nepal ranked as last.
- 9) **Global Manufacturing Index:** World Economic Forum released this Index and India ranked as 30<sup>th</sup> position. Japan is ranked as the 1<sup>st</sup> in the index.
- 10) **Global Talent Competitiveness Index:** GTCI was released by INSEAD combined with Adecco group and Tata **Communications**.
- 11) **GeM 3.0:** Government has launched the **e-Marketplace 3.0**. It is an Online Market platform to facilitate **the procurement** of goods and services.
- 12) **GST e-Way Bill:** By an e-Way Bill, we can track the movements of goods under GST, It is mainly mandatory for an interstate trade.

- 13) **GREEN BOND: India INX** (India's International Stock Exchange) has listed Indian Railways Finance Corporation's (IRFC) **1<sup>st</sup> green bond** on its global securities market (GSM).
- 14) **AayakarSetu App:** An **online chat service** has been launched by the **Income Tax Department** in the aayakarsetu app and the official website [www.incometaxindia.gov.in](http://www.incometaxindia.gov.in) from Monday to Friday between 10 am and 6 pm. It has been launched to help taxpayers to solve their queries.
- 15) **Mauritius** become the **largest source of foreign investment (FDI)** in India
- 16) **7.75% savings bonds scheme:** The Union Finance Ministry has launched the **7.75% Savings (Taxable) Bonds scheme** to help the citizens to invest in a taxable bond.
- 17) **LEADS:** Logistics Ease **across the Different** States (LEADS), Gujarat has topped the 1<sup>st</sup> in the logistics index chart.
- 18) **Economic Survey (2017-2018):** According to the Economic Survey, current fiscal is 6.5% and the last year fiscal was 7.1% released by The Department of Economic Affairs, Finance Ministry of India.
- 19) India becomes the **world's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest steel producer** According to the report published by World Steel Association.
- 20) The Annual Status of Education Report, 2017 was released by the NGO **Pratham**.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- 1) **100th satellite by ISRO:** PSVL-C40 / Cartosat - 2 is the 100th satellite of India by ISRO successfully launched on Jan 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- 2) **Mehul Garg** is an Indian-origin boy in **the UK became** the youngest person to **achieve the highest** score in Mensa IQ test.
- 3) **Bandicoot Robot:** It was developed by a group of young engineers **from Kerala** for an end of the abominable and legally banned practice of manual scavenging.

- 4) **Happy Nari Pad Vending Machine:** *Bhopal railway station* has become the 1<sup>st</sup> railway station in the country to install the sanitary napkin vending machine.
- 5) **Parker Solar Probe:** To explore the *sun's outer atmosphere*, Parker Solar Probe is going to launch by NASA.
- 6) **Zuma Mission:** It was the *secret Mission* launched by the Space X.
- 7) **Speed breeding Technique:** *Australian scientists* have developed the *world's 1<sup>st</sup>-speed breeding technique* that can enhance the production of the crop by up to three times.
- 8) **ROTAVAC** Vaccine gets World Health Organization (WHO) pre-qualification. **ROTAVAC is an India's diarrhoea vaccine.**
- 9) **Pink BollWorm Attack on Cotton:** Majorly affected *cotton* cultivated areas are Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka.
- 10) **World's 1<sup>st</sup> fully-private satellite:** *Rocker Lab, a U.S. space* start-up, successfully launched three small satellites into orbit from its own **private launch pad in New Zealand.**
- 11) **Cloned Monkeys:** *Zhong Zhong and Hua Hua* are the two identical **long-tailed** monkeys are successfully cloned by the Chinese scientists **for the first time.**
- 12) *India has missed the deadline December 2017 of eliminating* **Kala Azar** (*Black fever or Dum Dum fever*).
- 13) **Super Blood Blue Moon** **has appeared** on **31<sup>st</sup> January** in parts of western North America, Asia, the Middle East, Russia, and Australia.
- 14) **SARAS PT1N** is a **14-seater passenger aircraft** designed and developed by CSIR-NAL, a frontline aerospace research laboratory, Bangalore.
- 15) **Rizhao:** *China's new missile frigate.*
- 16) **SPT0615-JD:** NASA scientists have discovered SPT0615-JD the **farthest known galaxy in the Universe.**

- 17) **Agni-5:** It is an indigenously developed long-range surface-to-surface ballistic missile was successfully tested from Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha.
- 18) **REMOVE DEBRIS MISSION:** University of Surrey, UK has decided to launch Remove Debris mission this year to remove space debris.
- 19) INS Nirbhik and INS Nirghatwere decommissioned at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai both serving in the Navy for 30yrs (Nirbhik) & 28yrs (Nirghat).
- 20) Israel's BARAK Missile (Surface to Air Missile) was bought by India.
- 21) **GOLD mission:** NASA planned to explore the ionosphere by Global-scale Observations of the Limb and Disk (GOLD) mission & Ionospheric CONNECTION Explorer (ICON).
- 22) World's 5<sup>th</sup> largest 910-carat diamond was found in Lesotho mine, South Africa.
- 23) **RamthalMarola project:** It is Asia's largest drip irrigation project setup with the help of Israel technology has been implemented in Bagalkot District, Karnataka.
- 24) **"1926" Helpline number:** Maharashtra government has launched 24\*7 forest helpline number "1926"

### ENVIRONMENT

- 1) **Two new Ginger species** are found in the easternmost districts, Ukhrul in Manipur and Tuensang in Nagaland.
- 2) Scientists have discovered **new species of frog** named Mewa Singh's night frog (*Nyctibatrachus mewasinghi*) in Kozhikode's Malabar Wildlife Sanctuary. This genus is endemic to the Western Ghats.
- 3) **Elcysmaziensis**, a new species of moth, has been discovered at Talle wildlife sanctuary in Ziro, Arunachal Pradesh.
- 4) Scientists have discovered a new species of **blind fish named Schisturalarketensis** inside a cave in East Jaintia Hills district of Meghalaya.

- 5) **Roadkill App:** Wildlife Conservation Trust (WCT), wildlife NGO has developed this app for citizens to report wildlife deaths by uploading geo-tagged photographs to a public forum.
- 6) **Cyclone Ava:** The cyclone **has happened** in the **south-western Indian Ocean, Madagascar.**
- 7) Researchers from the University of Calicut in Kerala have reported the discovery of **four new species of balsam** from various locations in Arunachal Pradesh. They are ***Impatiens haridasanii, Impatiens pseudocitrina, Impatiens nilalohitae, and Impatiens roingensis.***

### **APPOINTMENTS, PERSONALITIES & AWARDS**

- 1) Anandiben Patel was appointed as the **Madhya Pradesh Governor.**
- 2) Vijay Keshav Gokhale was appointed as the **new foreign secretary.**
- 3) Rajinder Khanna, former chief of Research and Analysis Wing – RAW (India's external intelligence agency), was appointed as **new deputy national security advisor.**
- 4) **K. Sivan** from TN was appointed as a **new chairman of ISRO,** Former Chairman: A.S. Kiran Kumar.
- 5) **S. Somanath** was appointed as the **Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Thiruvananthapuram.**
- 6) **Dr.V.Narayanan** was appointed as the **new director of ISRO's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre** in Valiamala, Thiruvananthapuram.
- 7) **Preet Kaur Gill**, Britain's 1<sup>st</sup> first woman Sikh Member of Parliament (MP) has been elevated to the Shadow Cabinet by the Opposition Labour party leader Jeremy Corbyn.
- 8) **Sudeep Lakhtakia** was appointed as a **New Director-General of National Security Guard.**
- 9) **New Chief Election Commissioner: Om Prakash Rawat** (22<sup>nd</sup> CEC) appointed on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018.
- 10) New Election Commissioner: **Ashok Lavasa**

- 11) **G. Viswanathan** was appointed as the President of Indian Economic Association
- 12) Google celebrated the 96<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Indian-American Nobel Prize-winning biochemist **Har Gobind Khorana**, with a doodle.
- 13) **Sikkim government** has announced the legendary music composer **A R Rahman** as its tourism's brand ambassador of state.
- 14) **Actress Kajol** was appointed as an advocacy ambassador for **Swachh Aaad Swachh Bharat initiative**.
- 15) **Harjinder Singh** was appointed as the **Chef De Mission of Indian Contingent** participating in the 23rd Winter Olympic Games to be held in Pyeongchang, South Korea.
- 16) The legendary dancing couple of **India- Dhananjayan and Shanta Dhananjayan** have been selected for the prestigious Nishagandhi Puraskaram 2018 by **Kerala Govt.**
- 17) **PADMA AWARDEES: TN**
  - **Padma Vibhushan:** Ilaiyaraja – Art & Music.
  - **Padma Bhushan:** Ramachandran Nagasamy - Archaeology.
  - **Padma Shri:** V Nanammal - Yoga
  - ◆ Vijayalakshmi Navaneethakrishnan - folk song exponent
  - ◆ Rajagopalan Vasudevan – Science & Technology
  - ◆ Romulus Whitaker-wildlife conservation
- 18) **Ashok Chakra** was posthumously conferred to the IAF Corporal Jyoti Prakash Nirala
- 19) *Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards 2016:* **Geetha Chandran for Bharatanatyam.**
- 20) *Sangeet Natak Akademi Yuva Puraskar 2016:* **Jyotsna Jagannathan for Bharatanatyam.**
- 21) **Yash Chopra Memorial Award 2018** was awarded to **Asha Bhosle (Singer)**
- 22) **France's highest civilian award - Legion d'Honneur:** *Soumitra Chatterjee (Bengali actor)*



- 23) **Dame hood** was honoured for Prathibha Laxman Gai by **Queen Elizabeth**.
- 24) **Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad Award 2018** was awarded to **Maalan Narayanan (Tamil Writer)**
- 25) Dr. Kalam Innovation in Governance Award 2018 was awarded to **Nara Lokesh**
- 26) United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Award for Innovation in Tourism: Mangalajodi **Ecotourism** Trust, Odisha
- 27) **Outstanding Parliamentarian Award 2013 - 2017 was awarded to**
- 2013 – Dr. Najma Heptulla
  - 2014 – Hukmdev Narayan Yadav
  - 2015 – Gulam Nabi Azad
  - 2016 – Dinesh Trivedi
  - 2017 – BhatruhariMahatab
- 28) **1<sup>st</sup> Mufti Mohammed Sayeed Award** for probity in public life was awarded to **Bihar CM, Nitish Kumar**.
- 29) *First Indian* to receive **WHO's IhsanDogramaci** Family Health Foundation Prize 2018 was **Vinod Paul**

### **SPORTS**

- 1) **2022 National Games: The Meghalaya government**, the Indian Olympic Association, and the Meghalaya State Olympic Association **have** signed the host city contract to hold the **39th National Games in the state in 2022**.
- 2) *Khelo India School Games was launched under Khelo India Programme in New Delhi*
- 3) **Baby Olympics: Bahrain** has announced to host the **first-ever 'Baby Olympics'** where two to four-year-old babies will take part in the games.
- 4) **Aanchal Thakur** became the 1<sup>st</sup> Indian to win an international medal in **Skiing by winning a bronze medal**.
- 5) **Cricket Ranji Trophy 2017: Winner: Vidarbha (1<sup>st</sup> time) & Runner: Delhi in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.**

- 6) **Maharashtra Open 2018:** Giles Simon (France) (won) vs. Kevin Anderson (South Africa)
- 7) **Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for Cricketer of the Year:** Virat Kohli
- 8) **ICC Test Cricketer of the Year:** Steve Smith
- 9) **ICC ODI Cricketer of the Year:** Virat Kohli
- 10) **Blind Cricket World Cup 2018:** India beat Pakistan at Sharjah, UAE
- 11) **Australian Open 2018:**
  - **MEN'S:** Roger Federer (won) the Vs. Marin Cilic (Croatia) it's the **20th Grand Slam** & 6th Australia Open for Roger Federer
  - **WOMEN'S:** Caroline Wozniacki (Denmark) won vs. Simona Halep (Romania)
- 12) **Premier Badminton League 2017-18:** Hyderabad Hunters (won) vs. Bengaluru Blasters
- 13) **Hopman Cup 2018:** Roger Federer & Belinda Bencic of Switzerland won against Germany

### IMPORTANT DAYS

DAYS	EVENTS	THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE
January 1	125 <sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of the Satyendra Nath Bose	The invention of BOSON particle
January 5	1) Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti	1) On the honour of 10 <sup>th</sup> sikh guru.
	2) National Bird Day	2) National Bird Day was created to promote avian awareness.
January 9	Pravasi Bharatiya divas/NRI Day	"Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India"
January 10	World Hindi Day	"To spread the greatness of the language through its missions abroad"
January 11	Death anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri	2 <sup>nd</sup> Prime Minister of India
January 12	National Youth Day/YuvaDiwas	155 <sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda was observed.
January 15	National Army Day	Army day is dedicated to the soldiers who fought to safeguard the country's Honour.
January 23	Birth Anniversary of Nethaji Subash Chandra Bose	Indian National Army
January 24	National Girl Child Day	"A girl is a flower, not a thorn"
January 25	National voter's Day	"Accessible Elections"/ 8 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary was observed.
January 26	1) Indian Republic Day	1) 10 ASEAN leaders have Participated as a Chief Guest.
	2) International Customs Day	2) "A Secure business environment for economic development".
January 28	Birth Anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai	Lion of Punjab
January 29	238 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of India's first newspaper - Bengal Gazette	Hicky's Bengal Gazette was an English language weekly newspaper published in Kolkata.
January 30	1) Martyrs' Day	1) The assassination of Gandhi in 1948, by Nathuram Godse.
	2) National Cleanliness Day	2) The day calls to maintain high standards of cleanliness in & out of homes, workplace, roads and public places.
	3) World Leprosy Eradication Day	3) Observance of the day focuses on target of zero cases of leprosy-related disabilities in children.

**Free State Level TNPSC Group II (OT) MOCK TEST on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (Sunday)**

**Test Centres:** 1. Anna Nagar, 2. Adyar, 3. Salem, 4. Madurai, 5. Trichy, 6. Tirunelveli, 7. Cuddalore, 8. Vellore, 9. Thanjavur, 10. Kancheepuram, 11. Krishnagiri, 12. Erode, 13. Palani, 14. Coimbatore, 15. Namakkal

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY  
ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS

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