

## **Important Current Affairs - Monthly PDF September 2018 September 1 - September 30, 2018**

### **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS:**

#### **Arif Alvi is elected as new President of Pakistan**

- Arif Alvi is a close ally of Prime Minister Imran Khan and one of the founding members of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party.
- The 69-year-old former dentist defeated Pakistan People's Party's (PPP) Aitzaz Ahsan and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz's (PML-N) Maulana Fazlur Rehman to become the 13th President.
- Arif Alvi took the oath of office on September 9 as the outgoing President Mamnoon Hussain's five-year tenure ends on September 8.

#### **Amazon hits USD 1 trillion market capitalisation after Apple:**

- World's richest man Jeff Bezos-led e-commerce major Amazon became the **2nd publicly traded US company** to hit \$1 trillion in market capitalisation after iPhone maker Apple.
- Amazon stock has more than doubled in the last 12 months and has gained more than 70% in 2018.

#### **India to buy 18 bullet trains from Japan for Rs 7,000 crore:**

- Each train will have 10 coaches and would be able to cruise at the speed of 350 km per hour.
- **Purpose:-** To launch India's first bullet train by 2022.
- The 508-km high speed train corridor between Mumbai and Ahmedabad at an estimated cost of Rs 1,10,000 crore is expected to be operational by 2022.
- National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) will be responsible for executing the project of the high-speed train corridor.

### **Facebook to open its 1st ever Asian data centre in Singapore:**

- Facebook will invest over \$1 billion to build its first Asian data centre in Singapore, which is expected to open in 2022.
- The new site is at Tanjong Kling, located in the western part of Singapore, and in an area formerly known as Data Centre Park.
- Facebook runs 15 other data centres worldwide, mostly in the US and European markets such as Ireland and Sweden.

### **First ever bus services between Bihar and Nepal flagged off**

- Bihar Chief Minister **Nitish Kumar** flagged off the first bus service between Bihar and Nepal.
- Four buses will ply from Bodhgaya to Kathmandu via Patna, Raxaul and Birgunj. Similar four buses will ply from Patna to Janakpur that will go via Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi.

### **India to supply 160 railway coaches to Sri Lanka**

- The agreement to supply the railway passenger coaches custom-made in India, valued at around \$82.64 million, was signed between RITES Limited of India and Sri Lankan government in Colombo.
- India has already completed projects close to \$1 billion under concessional financing in the railway sector in Sri Lanka including railway lines to Jaffna and Thalai Mannar.

### **India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline Project inaugurated**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated the construction of the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline Project through video conferencing.
- The 130-kilometre-long pipeline will connect Siliguri in West Bengal and Parbatipur in Bangladesh Dinajpur district, and will be used for importing oil.
- The third and fourth Dual Gauge line of Dhaka-Tongi section and Dual Gauge Double line of Tongi-Joydevpur section of Bangladesh Railway were also inaugurated.

### **SpaceX to send Japanese billionaire Yusaku as the first ever**

- Elon Musk-led startup SpaceX revealed that Yusaku Maezawa, founder of Japan's largest clothing website Zozotown, has signed up to be the world's first private passenger to fly around the Moon.
- Only 24 humans have been to the Moon in history.

### **First Women Foreign Minister conference held in Canada**

- Women Foreign ministers from almost 20 countries have gathered in Montreal, Canada and discussed topics including security and gender-based violence.
- The meeting was co-chaired by Canada's top diplomat, Chrystia Freeland, and the foreign affairs representative of the EU, Federica Mogherini.

### **U.N. declared 2019-2028 as the Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace**

- This incident took place at the **Nelson Mandela peace summit** honouring the South African leader at the UN.
- He also unveiled a statue of Nelson Mandela at the UN marking the 100th anniversary of Mandela's birth.

## **NATIONAL AFFAIRS:**

### **Mauritius tops India's FDI charts again in FY18:**

- According to RBI data, Mauritius remained the top source of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into India in 2017-18 followed by Singapore.
- The total FDI in the financial year stood at \$37.36 billion, a marginal increase from \$36.31 billion recorded in the previous fiscal.
- FDI from Mauritius totalled \$13.41 billion.

### **Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi inaugurates the first luxury cruise 'Alaknanda' in Varanasi:**

- The five-star luxury cruise, a 30-metre double-decked modern line, is a startup venture of Varanasi based Nordic Cruise Line.
- It will run between Assi Ghat and Panchganga Ghat for a two-hour ride of around 12 km in the morning and evening.

### **TCS becomes 2nd Indian company to cross Rs. 8 trillion market cap:**

- Mumbai-headquartered Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) became only the second Indian company to cross ₹8 trillion (Rs 8 lakh crore) in market capitalisation after Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries.
- Earlier on August 23, Reliance Industries (RIL) became the first Indian company to cross the Rs 8 lakh crore market capitalisation mark.
- TCS CEO - Rajesh Gopinathan.

### **Nagaland Government declared Singphan Wildlife Sanctuary as an elephant reserve:**

- The Singphan Elephant Reserve which is the 30th elephant reserve in India, is located in Mon district of Nagaland and spreads over an area of 5825 acres (2357 hac).
- As per recent census report (2017) Nagaland has around 446 Elephants.
  - The creation of new Elephant Reserve will result in protection and conservation of the elephants.

## **India ranked 3rd globally in terms of number of family-owned businesses:**

- According to the 'Credit Suisse Family 1000 in 2018' report, published by the Credit Suisse Research Institute (CSRI), in terms of number of family owned businesses, within the non-Japan Asian region, China, India and Hong Kong dominate the list.
- India has a total of 111 companies and \$839 billion total market capitalization.
- Korea came in fourth place, with 43 companies (USD 434.1 billion market capitalisation), followed by Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, each with 26 companies.

## **Jammu and Kashmir becomes 3rd State to adopt RADMS software:**

- The Road Accident Data Management System (RADMS) software is a Geographical Information System (GIS) solution for identification of black spots, wrong driving practices, overloading issues, driver issues and other factors causing or related to road accidents.
- In 2015, the 'Supreme Court committee on road safety' had mandated all states to use RADMS.

## **Union Government approved 100% Electrification Of Railways by 2021-22:**

- This initiative will cost the government around Rs 12,134 crore.

- The main aim is to electrify 108 sections of the railways covering 13,675 route kilometres of tracks.
- Indian Railways is the largest rail networks in the world with 67,368km of tracks and 22,550 trains that carry 22.24 million passengers and 3.04 million tonnes of freight every day.

### **Bengaluru International Airport (BIAL) first in country to roll out facial recognition facility from 2019:**

- The first few airlines involved with this are Jet Airways, Air Asia and SpiceJet.
- This makes BIAL the first aerodrome in the country to implement paperless air travel.
- It has inked a pact with the Lisbon-based digital and biometric solutions services provider Vision-Box to implement the technology.
- This is a part of the Digi Yatra project to make boarding process paperless.

### **Haryana govt signs MoU with Indian Oil to set up Ethanol plant**

- An ethanol plant will be set up in Bohali village, Panipat with an outlay of over Rs 900 crore.
- The MoU will be valid for one year.
- The proposed capacity of this ethanol plant will be of producing 100 kilolitres of ethanol per day.
- Paddy and Sugarcane crop residues will be supplied as raw material for this plant in cyclic manner.

- **Purpose:-**

- Bioethanol can be easily blended with petrol or diesel, thus making it sustainable transport fuel. It also reduces air pollution.

## **Union Cabinet approved 4 New National Institutes of Design:**

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the amendment of National Institutes of Design (NID) Act, 2014, thereby granting approval for introduction of a Bill in Parliament for the declaration of four new NID as Institutions of National Importance (INIs).
- The four new NID will be coming up in
  - ◆ Amaravati Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh
  - ◆ Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
  - ◆ Jorhat, Assam

## **India got first ever gender-neutral hostel in Mumbai TISS:**

- After the Supreme Court scrapped Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) that criminalised homosexuality, India has become the first-ever country to have a gender-neutral hostel.
- The Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai's Deonar has become the first campus in India to have a gender-neutral hostel.
- The hostel has 10 twin-seater rooms that will host transgender, or gender non-conforming students.



## **Cyclone-30 becomes operational in Kolkata, to boost cancer diagnosis:**

- India's biggest cyclotron facility named Cyclone-30 that will produce radioisotopes vital for diagnosis and treatment of cancer became operational at the Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre (VECC) in Kolkata.
- Cyclone-30 will become the first and only facility in the country to produce Germanium 68 isotopes, which is used in the diagnosis of breast cancer.
- At present, many radioisotopes are imported while some are produced in nuclear research reactors such as the Apsara at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), and remaining in cyclotrons facilities run by large private hospitals.

## **Hyderabad Metro becomes India's 2nd largest metro rail network**

- After Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Governor ESL Narasimhan flagged off the 16-km stretch of Hyderabad Metro between Ameerpet and L B Nagar, Hyderabad Metro became the second biggest rail network in India with a total of 46 km service, next only to Delhi.
- It is also the world's largest metro project under the public-private-partnership (PPP) model with a total estimated cost of over Rs 20,000 crore courtesy time and cost overruns before and after the formation of Telangana state.

## Cabinet approved policy of DoT to provide broadband access to all citizens by 2022

- The Union Cabinet approved the new telecom policy of providing **broadband access** to every citizen. It aimed at providing a speed at 50 Mbps speed by the year 2022.
- The National Digital Communications Policy 2018 has planned to invest \$100 billion in the country's digital communications sector.
- It also plans to create at least 40 lakh new jobs in the sector in the next four years.
- The policy has called for a review of levies and fees which includes licence fee, universal service obligation fund levy and spectrum usage charges, on the sector.
- This is expected to help the debt-laden telecom sector. It is expected that the government would take up to a year to decide on this issue.

## Union Government sets up Ayush Information Cell in Romania

- To encourage practice of ayurveda, India has set up an 'Ayush Information Cell' at its embassy premises in Romania to create awareness about the traditional Indian system of medicine.
- The cell was digitally inaugurated by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu during his visit to Romania earlier this month.

## Govt announces states' financial inclusion index, easy online MSME loans

- Finance Minister Arun Jaitley launched a common online platform for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) credit which will enable businesses to get loans up to Rs 10 million approved through a completely automated process within just 59 minutes.
- Arun Jaitley launched the Financial Inclusion Index (FII) in New Delhi.
- The index will be released by the Department of Financial Services (DFS) under the Ministry of Finance by the end of this year and it would rate states on their performance on last-mile banking services availability.
- The index will include the following three measurement dimensions:
  - (i) Access to financial services
  - (ii) Usage of financial services
  - (iii) Quality

### BANKING & FINANCE NEWS:

#### RBI announces new rules for exchanging damaged Rs 2000, 200 notes:

- As per the new Reserve Bank of India (Note Refund) Amendment Rules, 2018, "the undivided area of the single largest piece of the note" for a damaged Rs 2000 note must

be 88 square cm for a full refund, and 44 square cm for half refund.

- The Rs 2000 note is 109.56 square cm in dimension.
- For a damaged Rs 200 note, the criteria is 78 square cm for a full refund, and 39 square cm for half refund.
- Rs 2,000 notes are issued in November 2016 and Rs 2,00 notes are issued in September 2017.

### **Argentina hikes interest rate to 60%, highest in the world:**

- Due to economic crisis, Argentina's central bank raised its benchmark interest by 15 percentage points to 60%, the highest in the world.
- Argentine peso is down 50% this year against the dollar and the country's inflation is running at over 30%.
- Argentina President Mauricio Macri has asked for an early release of a \$50-billion loan from the IMF (International Monetary Fund).

### **Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) on September 1**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the IPPB at Talkatora Stadium in Delhi.
- IPPB is the largest payments bank in the country by network size.
- It carries out most banking operations but cannot give loans or issue credit cards directly.

- It will accept deposits of up to ₹1 lakh, offer remittance services, mobile payments and other banking services and third-party fund transfers.

### **Cabinet doubles Jan Dhan accounts overdraft cap to Rs 10,000**

- The government has doubled the overdraft cap from ₹5,000 to ₹10,000 under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), which provides a bank account to every individual.
- The age limit for availing overdraft has been increased from 60 to 65 years.
- **About PMJDY:**
  - Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana was launched by Narendra Modi-led government in August 2014.
  - It was the first big mission launched by Modi government after it assumed office in May 2014.
  - It first aimed to provide at least one bank account for every household, along with an overdraft facility of ₹5,000, a RuPay debit card and a personal accident insurance of ₹1 lakh.

### **RBI directs banks with over 10 branches to have an internal Ombudsman:**

- The Reserve Bank of India asked all scheduled commercial banks with more than 10 branches to appoint an internal ombudsman. It has excluded regional rural banks (RRB) from its directive.

- RBI has reviewed the arrangement and issued revised directions under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 in the form of Internal Ombudsman Scheme, 2018.

### **Reserve Bank to purchase govt securities worth Rs 10,000 crore on September 19:**

- The purchase of the government securities (G-secs) will be done through Open Market Operations (OMO).
- The central bank will conduct the OMO through a multi-security auction - of five G-Secs (maturing in 2020, 2022, 2027, 2030, and 2042) using the multiple price method.

### **Centre to merge Bank of Baroda, Vijaya Bank, Dena Bank:**

- The Centre proposed the merger of state-owned Bank of Baroda, Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank in order to create India's third-largest bank.
- The decision was made during the ministerial panel meeting that oversees merger proposals of state-owned banks. It was headed by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.
- The decision is because Dena Bank had been placed under the prompt corrective action framework.

### **SBI to run 10,000 ATMs on solar energy in Two years:**

- At present, the State Bank of India (SBI) has 1,200 ATMs which run on solar power.
- SBI is also planning to replace all its vehicles with electric vehicles by 2030.
- Aim:- To become carbon neutral and to achieve it by 2030.

- SBI is organising a green marathon starting September 30, to be held in 15 cities across the country.
- SBI has nearly 59,000 ATMs in India.

### **BSNL signed deal with SoftBank, NTT to roll out 5G in India**

- BSNL Chairman Anupam Shrivastava announced that BSNL with Japan's SoftBank and NTT Communications may launch 5G internet service and Internet of Things (IoT) technology by 2020 in India.
- BSNL has signed agreement with Nokia and Cisco as well for developing 5G ecosystem.

### **IRBI eased cash reserve rules to allow banks to get increased liquidity from SLR**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) allowed banks to dip further into statutory cash reserves to ease a liquidity squeeze afflicting the nation's money markets.
- The move by the central bank follows concerns over tight liquidity conditions and banks unwillingness to lend to NBFCs.

#### About Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- 24th Governor of RBI - Urjit Patel
- Headquarters - Mumbai
- Established -1st April 1935, in Kolkata

## **ADB approved USD 500 mn for Tamil Nadu water supply, sewerage, drainage infrastructure project**

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved financing of up to \$500 million for a Multitranche Financing Facility (MFF) infrastructure project in at least 10 cities of Tamil Nadu.
- The main objective is to develop climate-resilient water supply, sewerage, and drainage infrastructure.
- The first tranche of the program amounts to \$169 million will target the cities of Chennai, Coimbatore, Rajapalayam, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli, and Vellore.

### **AWARDS:**

#### **Game of Thrones' won 9 Emmy Awards:**

- HBO series 'Game of Thrones' won nine awards including 'Outstanding Drama Series award' at this year's Emmy Awards.
- The 70th annual Primetime Emmy Awards have taken place in Los Angeles.
- The winners of 2018 Emmy Awards are:-
  - ◆ Best lead actress in a drama series - Claire Foy for The Crown
  - ◆ Best lead actor in a drama series - Matthew Rhys for The Americans.

#### **Indian film won the Toronto International Film Festival's prestigious Award:**

- Director Vasanth Varma's action thriller 'Mard Ko Dard Nahi Hota' (The Man Who Feels No Pain) has won the top award i.e.,



Grolsch People's Choice Midnight Madness Award at the 43rd Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF).

- This is the first ever Indian film to be screened in the Toronto festival's Midnight Madness programme.

## DEFENCE NEWS:

### **Vostok 2018 the largest exercise held in Russia**

● Vostok 2018 war games were launched on September 11 close to the border with China and include about 300,000 troops - more than during the Cold War.

● China sent 3,200 troops to take part in Vostok-2018 (meaning East), with many Chinese armoured vehicles and aircraft.

● More than 1,000 aircraft, 36,000 tanks, up to 80 naval vessels, armoured personnel carriers and armoured infantry vehicles are taking part from 11 to 17 September.

India, US annual combat exercise 'Yudh Abhyas 2018' to be held at Uttarakhand:

● The 2-Week long Yudh Abhyas 2018 exercise will be conducted at Chaubatia in Uttarakhand from 16 to 29 September, 2018.

● It will be fourteenth edition of exercise in Yudh Abhyas series which was started in 2004 under US Army Pacific Partnership Program.

### **India-Mongolia Joint Exercise 'Nomadic Elephant 2018' held in Ulaanbaatar:**

● The 12 days long Nomadic Elephant-2018 has begun at Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) Five Hills Training Area, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

- Nomadic Elephant is an annual bilateral military exercise, started in the year 2006, and this was the 13th edition of the exercise.

## SCHEMES

### **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana to Cover Child Cancer Treatment:**

- Child cancer will be treated under the Ayushman Bharat scheme and the rate in this regard has been fixed.
- The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana or Ayushman Bharat scheme will be launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the birth anniversary of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay on September 25, 2018.
- It is the world's largest government-funded programme, which will cover over 10 crore poor and vulnerable families providing coverage up to Rs 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation.
- The centres will provide comprehensive health care for diseases like diabetes, cancer, hypertension and cardiovascular diseases.

### **Union Cabinet approved new Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA):**

- Aim:- To ensure remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018.
- The scheme is comprised of
  - Price Support Scheme (PSS),

- Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS)
- Pilot of Private Procurement & Stockist Scheme (PPPS).

### **India's first tribal circuit tourism project under Swadesh Darshan scheme inaugurated at Chhattisgarh:**

- The central government had allocated about 100 crore rupees to develop this project to highlight tribal culture to the domestic and foreign tourists.
- The circuit connects 13 tourism sites in Chhattisgarh - Jashpur, Kunkuri, Mainpat, Kamleshpur, Maheshpur, Kurdar, Saroda Dadar, Gangrel, Kondagaon, Nathiya Nawagaon, Jagdalpur, Chitrakoot, and Tirathgarh.
- Under the theme of the tribal circuit, close to Rs 400 crore has been sanctioned to the states of Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Nagaland.

## **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY:**

### **ISRO launched its technology incubation centre in Agartala, Tripura:**

- The centre at Agartala is the first of six such centres which are planned to build capacity in new locations. It is aimed to have a good presence in academia and industry.
- These space research activities are to tap the talents of the locations and include them in the space footprint.
- ISRO's Capacity Building Programme directorate is to invest Rs.2 crore for such centres in Jalandhar, Bhubaneswar, Tiruchi, Nagpur and Indore.

These centres will not have activities related to space.

### **France to collaborate on India's first human space mission 'Gaganyaan':**

- India and France inked an agreement to collaborate on Gaganyaan, ISRO's first human space mission.
- ISRO and CNES, the French space agency, will be combining their expertise in fields of space medicine, astronaut health monitoring, life support, radiation protection, space debris protection and personal hygiene systems.
- These two space agencies also plan to work on Mars, Venus and asteroids.
- India plans to send three humans to space before 2022. It would make India one of the four countries in the world after Russia, US and China to launch a manned space flight.

### **ISRO to launch 19 missions in just 7 months:**

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will conduct 19 missions, including 10 satellites and nine launch vehicles, in the next seven months between September and March.
- It will include the launch of India's second moon mission Chandrayaan-2. ISRO planned to launch two satellites within 30 days consecutively for months.
- The services would be resumed on September 15 with the PSLV C42 mission, which will carry UK satellites - Novasar and S1-4 as the main payload.
- Then, ISRO will launch GSLV Mk III-D2, also known as 'Bahubali'.

- ISRO Chairman - K Sivan.

### **ISRO plans to set up its First Overseas Ground Station at North Pole:**

- The ground station will augment the Indian Remote Sensing (Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) operations crucial not just for civilian needs like disaster management but also for the armed forces.
- However, ISRO has already two ground stations-IMGEOs at Shadnagar and AGEOS in Antarctica.

### **UAE revealed the names of its first 2 astronauts for the space mission:**

- The United Arab Emirates has disclosed its first two astronauts to go on a mission to the International Space Station.
- Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates - Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum named the new astronauts as:
  - Hazza al-Mansouri, 34-year-old, and
  - Sultan al-Neyadi, 37-year-old.
- The UAE has its sights set on space with a programme worth 20 billion dirhams i.e, \$5.4 billion.
- UAE has announced its plans to become the first Arab country to send an unmanned probe to orbit Mars by 2021. The probe is named as “Hope”.

### **World's first lion cubs born via artificial insemination:**

- In a world first achievement, a lioness at the Ukutula Conservation Center and Biobank in South Africa's North West

province has given birth to two cubs conceived via non-surgical artificial insemination, using fresh semen from an adult male lion at the same facility.

- The research is a breakthrough for saving endangered species like tiger and snow leopard.

## SPORTS NEWS:

### **Rikako Ikee who bagged 6 golds named 2018 Asiad's Most Valuable Player:**

- Japanese swimmer Rikako Ikee (18-year-old), who bagged six gold and two silver medals at the Asian Games 2018, has been named as the quadrennial event's Most Valuable Player.
- She became the first female athlete to bag the award in the history of Asian Games.
- Ikee also received a cheque of \$50,000 (₹35.5 lakh).

### **Anjum, Apurvi become first set of Indian shooters to secure quota places for 2020 Olympics:**

- Anjum Moudgil and Apurvi Chandela achieved this by winning a silver and finishing fourth respectively in the women's 10m air rifle event of the ISSF World Championship on September 3, 2018.
- The International Shooting Sport Federation's (ISSF) premier tournament assumes added significance as it is the first Olympic quota event for the 2020 Tokyo Games, offering as many as 60 berths across 15 events.

### **Lucknow to host 1st International cricket match after 24 years:**

- Lucknow's Ekana International Cricket Stadium is set to host its first international cricket match as the stadium has been announced as the venue for the second T20I between India and West Indies on November 6.
- West Indies' tour of India, which consists of two Tests, five ODIs, and three T20Is begins on October 4.

### **Novak Djokovic Won US Open Tennis Men's Singles Title:**

- He defeated Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina.
- It was Djokovic's 14th Grand Slam title and the third US Open title.
- Further, he became the seventh man to win US Open singles title at least thrice in the Open Era.

Naomi Osaka defeated Serena Williams to win U.S Open Tennis women's Singles Title:

- Naomi Osaka became the first Japanese woman to win a Grand Slam title after she registered an emphatic win over Serena Williams in the finals of the U.S Open.

### **Triple jumper Arpinder Singh creates history by becoming first Indian to win a medal in IAAF Continental Cup:**

- He clinched a bronze with a modest effort of 16.59m.
- Arpinder had won a gold in the Asian Games in Jakarta

### **MS Dhoni overtakes Dravid to become India's 2nd most capped cricketer:**

- Mahendra Singh become the second most capped player for India in international cricket as he played his 505th match for India in the Super Four of Asia Cup 2018 against Pakistan on September 23.
- Before Dhoni, Rahul Dravid was the second most capped player for India with 504 caps in international cricket.
- Sachin Tendulkar is the top most capped player for India with a record 664 matches for India.

### **Satyarup Siddhanta, Mousumi Khatua scaled Asia's highest volcanic peak Mount Damavand:**

- Mount Damavand is the highest peak in Iran and also a potentially active volcano.
- At an elevation of 5609 metres, Mt Damavand is known for its Sulphur discharge near its peak which can cause irreparable damage if exposed for a longer duration.
- This is the fourth volcanic summit for Siddhanta.

Hangzhou confirmed as host of 2022 Asian Para Games:

- Asian Paralympic Committee (APC) confirmed that Hangzhou in China will host the fourth edition of Asian Para Games in 2022.
- Hangzhou will now be represented at the Closing Ceremony of 2018 Asian Para Games, which will begin in Indonesian capital Jakarta on October 6.

### **Sajan Bhanwal becomes first Indian to win back-to-back medal at World Junior Wrestling**

- 20-year-old Haryana wrestler won the silver medal in 77kg category in Greco-Roman style at the Junior World



Championships in Trnava, Slovakia.

- He had won a bronze medal in the same category at the Tampere World Championships last year.
- He also clinched the gold at Junior Asia Championship in July

### **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awards 2018**

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Name of the Sportsperson</b>	<b>Discipline</b>
1	Ms. S. Mirabai Chanu	Weightlifting
2	Shri Virat Kohli	Cricket

### **Dronacharya Awards 2018**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name of the Coach</b>	<b>Discipline</b>
1	Subedar Chenanda Achaiah Kuttappa	Boxing
2	Shri Vijay Sharma	Weightlifting
3	Shri A. Srinivasa Rao	Table Tennis
4	Shri Sukhdev Singh Pannu	Athletics
5	Shri Clarence Lobo	Hockey (Life Time)
6	Shri Tarak Sinha	Cricket (Life Time)
7	Shri Jiwan Kumar Sharma	Judo (Life Time)

8	Shri V.R. Beedu	Athletics (Life time)
<b>Arjuna Awards 2018</b>		
<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Sportsperson</b>	<b>Discipline</b>
1	Shri Neeraj Chopra	Athletics
2	Naib Subedar Jinson Johnson	Athletics
3	Ms. Hima Das	Athletics
4	Ms. Nelakurthi Sikki Reddy	Badminton
5	Subedar Satish Kumar	Boxing
6	Ms. Smriti Mandhana	cricket
7	Shri Shubhankar Sharma	Golf
8	Shri Manpreet Singh	Hockey
9	Ms. Savita	Hockey
10	Col. Ravi Rathore	Polo
11	Ms. Rahi Sarnobat	Shooting
12	Shri Ankur Mittal	Shooting
13	Ms. Shreyasi Singh	Shooting
14	Ms. Manika Batra	Table Tennis
15	Shri G. Sathiyam	Table Tennis

16	Shri Rohan Bopanna	tennis
17	Shri Sumit	Wrestling
18	Ms. Pooja Kadian	Wushu
19	Shri Manoj Sarkar	Para Badminton
20	Shri Ankur Dhama	Para Athletics

## QUIZ CORNER:

1) Who is awarded as the UEFA Player in the Year (2017-2018)?

- A. Luka Modrić
- B. Cristiano Ronaldo
- C. Franck Ribéry
- D. Lionel Messi

Answer:- A

2) How much amount has been pledged by Germany to India for Clean Ganga Mission?

- A. Rs 890 crore
- B. Rs 990 crore
- C. Rs 790 crore
- D. Rs 590 crore

**Answer:- B**

**3) Due to economic crisis, Argentina raised its benchmark interest by 15 percentage points to \_\_\_\_\_, the highest in the world.**

- A. 65%**
- B. 50%**
- C. 55%**
- D. 60%**

**Answer:- D**

**4) Rikako Ikee (18-year-old) has been named as the Most Valuable Player of Asian Games 2018. Which country does she belong to?**

- A. China**
- B. Indonesia**
- C. Japan**
- D. Thailand**

**Answer:- C**

**6) Which country remained the top source of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into India in 2017-18?**

- A. Sri Lanka**
- B. Mauritius**
- C. Singapore**
- D. Maldives**



**Answer:- B**

**7) With which company did Wipro sign a \$1.6 billion contract for 10 years?**

- A. Alight Solutions LLC**
- B. Upp Technology**
- C. Abbott Solutions Ltd**
- D. Mondel Az International**

**Answer:- A**

**8 ) Two Indians who received this year's Ramon Magsaysay Award are:**

- A. Gethsie Shanmugam and Abdon Nababan**
- B. Sanjiv Chaturvedi and Anshu Gupta**
- C. TM Krishna and Bezwada Wilson**
- D. Bharat Vatwani and Sonam Wangchuk**

**Answer:- D**

**9) Who has been elected as New chairman of Indian Banks Association (IBA) for 2018-19?**

- A. Sunil Mehta**
- B. Dina Bandhu Mohapatra**
- C. Rajnish Kumar**
- D. Shyam Srinivasan**



**Answer:- A**

**10) 'Alaknanda' is the first five-star luxury cruise in \_\_\_\_\_.**

**A. Vishakapatnam**

**B. Kolkata**

**C. Varanasi**

**D. Mumbai**

**Answer:- C**

**11) Which party won Karnataka urban body polls that were held for 2,662 seats on August 31?**

**A. Janata Dal (Secular)**

**B. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)**

**C. Indian National Congress (INC)**

**D. Karnataka Janata Paksha**

**Answer:- C**

**12) Which company becomes 2nd Indian company to cross ₹8 trillion (Rs 8 lakh crore) in market capitalisation after Reliance?**

**A. HCL Technologies**

**B. Bharti Airtel**

**C. Infosys**

**D. Tata Consultancy Services**

**Answer:- D**



**13) World's first lion cubs born via artificial insemination in \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. South Africa**
- B. Kenya**
- C. Zimbabwe**
- D. Mozambique**

**Answer:- A**

**14) Which of the following book is the compilation of the speeches made by PM Narendra Modi?**

- A. Abode of Love**
- B. Jyotipunj**
- C. Exam warrior**
- D. Setubandha**

**Answer:- C**

**15) From October 4, India will play two Tests, five ODIs and three T20Is against \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. West Indies**
- B. Zimbabwe**
- C. England**
- D. Australia**

**Answer:- A**



**16) Who is the elected as the President of Pakistan?**

- A. Imran Khan**
- B. Arif Alvi**
- C. Maulana Fazlur Rehman**
- D. Aitzaz Ahsan**

**Answer:- B**

**17) India's first bullet train is likely to start running between Mumbai and \_\_\_\_\_ by the end of 2022.**

- A. New Delhi**
- B. Kolkata**
- C. Lucknow**
- D. Ahmedabad**

**Answer:- D**

**18) Who is appointed as the brand ambassador by BSNL for 2 years?**

- A. Harmanpreet Kaur**
- B. Mary Kom**
- C. Sunil Chhetri**
- D. P.V Sindhu**

**19) Japan recently hit by strongest storm of 25 years, called Typhoon \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. Shanshan**
- B. Haiyan**
- C. Jebi**





**D. Maria**

**Answer:- C**

**20) What is the position of India in the list of 'Theft Ranking' of nuclear weapons, released by Nuclear Security Index?**

**A. 19th**

**B. 20th**

**C. 16th**

**D. 14th**

**Answer:- A**

**21) India successfully carried out first ever mid-air refuelling of**

**\_\_\_\_\_.**

**A. HAL Dhruv**

**B. HAL Tejas**

**C. HAL Cheetah**

**D. HAL Chetak**

**Answer:- A**

**22) Who had won the 'Yamaha Fascino Miss Diva Universe India 2018' title to become the Representative of India at Miss Universe 2018 that will be held at Bangkok in December?**

- A. Shraddha Shashidhar
- B. Roshni Sheoran
- C. Nehal Chudasama
- D. Aditi Hundia

Answer:- C

**23) Who is the first Indian to win a medal in IAAF Continental Cup?**

- A. Arpinder Singh
- B. Sharad Kumar
- C. Suresh Babu
- D. Varun Bhati

Answer:- A

**24) Which country retained its number 1 ranking in the United Nation's latest Human Development Index (HDI)?**

- A. Norway
- B. Switzerland
- C. Australia
- D. Germany

Answer:- A

**25) India's first ever dedicated dog park was constructed in -----**

- A. Chennai**
- B. New Delhi**
- C. Hyderabad**
- D. Mumbai**

**Answer:- C**

**26) India's first tribal circuit tourism project under 'Swadesh Darshan scheme' recently inaugurated at**

- A. Chhattisgarh**
- B. Telangana**
- C. Nagaland**
- D. Mizoram**

**Answer:- A**

**27) China is planning to establish bullet train between**

- \_\_\_\_\_.**
- A. Kolkata and Kunming**
  - B. Aizawl and Lincang**
  - C. Gorakhpur and Yuxi**
  - D. Guwahati and Lijiang**

**Answer:- A**

**28) Every year Hindi Diwas is celebrated on 14th September. In which year, Hindi became the official language of India under the Article 343?**

- A. 1948**
- B. 1950**
- C. 1949**
- D. 1951**

**Answer:- C**

**29) Which country introduced world's first hydrogen-powered train?**

- A. Japan**
- B. Germany**
- C. Russia**
- D. China**

**Answer:- B**

**30) Which city of China will host the 2022 Asian Para Games?**

- A. Hangzhou**
- B. Guangzhou**
- C. Beijing**
- D. Nanjing**



**Answer:- A**

**31) Who were jointly conferred with Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award 2018, India's highest sporting honour?**

- A. Virat Kohli, Mirabai Chanu**
- B. Neeraj Chopra, Hima Das**
- C. Jinson Johnson, Smriti Mandhana**
- D. Manpreet Singh, Manika Batra**

**Answer:- A**

**32) What are the banks that are to be amalgamated as per the government's proposal to form India's third largest bank?**

- A. Indian Bank and Punjab National Bank**
- B. Bank of India, Punjab National Bank and Dena Bank**
- C. Indian Overseas Bank, Dena Bank and Allahabad Bank**
- D. Bank of Baroda, Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank**

**Answer:- D**

**33) India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline Project connects \_\_\_\_\_ in West Bengal and Parbatipur in Dinajpur district of Bangladesh.**

- A. Siliguri**
- B. Durgapur**
- C. Asansol**
- D. Kolkata**



**Answer:- A**

**34) Who is appointed as the Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission?**

- A. Anushakti Bhavan**
- B. Sekhar Basu**
- C. K Sivan**
- D. Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas**

**Answer:- D**

**35) Which drama series won 9 Emmy awards including 'Outstanding Drama Series award' 2018?**

- A. Stranger Things**
- B. The Americans**
- C. The Crown**
- D. Game of Thrones**

**Answer:- D**

**36) According to the recent report, which state MLAs top the list with an average annual income of ₹1.1 crore?**

- A. Karnataka**
- B. Chhattisgarh**
- C. Bihar**
- D. Maharashtra**

**Answer:- A**

**37) Who is set to be the World's first private passenger to fly around the Moon?**

- A. Ma Huateng**
- B. Tadashi Yanai**
- C. Masayoshi Son**
- D. Yusaku Maezawa**

**Answer:- D**

**38) India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) announced a five-year partnership to sell life insurance products on a revenue share basis, with which of the following insurance company?**

- A. Bajaj Allianz**
- B. Life Insurance Corporation of India**
- C. Birla Sun Life**
- D. Reliance Life Insurance**

**Answer:- A**

**39) Which of the following film will represent India in the Best Foreign Language category at the Oscar Awards 2019?**

- A. Batti Gul Meter Chalu**
- B. Village Rockstars**
- C. Manmarziyaan**
- D. Sanju**

**Answer:- B**

**40) Which two teams share top spot for the first time in FIFA rankings, published on September 20?**

- A. Portugal and Belgium**
- B. Belgium and France**
- C. France and Brazil**
- D. Brazil and Spain**

**Answer:- A**

**41) The government has hiked Interest rate on Public Provident Fund (PPF) for the October-December 2018 quarter, from existing 7.6% to \_\_\_\_\_%.**

- A. 7.9**
- B. 7.8**
- C. 8.2**
- D. 8**

**Answer:- D**

**42) Who is heading India's First Human Space Flight Project ie.,Gaganyaan mission?**

- A. VR Lalithambika**
- B. N Valarmathi**
- C. Ritu Karidhal**
- D. Nandini Harinath**

**Answer:- A**



**43) Exercise Avia Indra is an Air Force level exercise between India and \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. China
- B. Germany
- C. France
- D. Russia

**Answer:- D**

**44) Which country will join as the third strategic partner of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)?**

- A. Saudi Arabia
- B. Qatar
- C. Kuwait
- D. Iraq

**Answer:- A**

**45) India's biggest cyclotron facility 'Cyclone-30' that will produce radioisotopes vital for diagnosis and treatment of cancer recently became operational at**

- A. Varanasi
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Kolkata
- D. Bhubaneswar

**Answer:- C**

**46) Who is newly appointed as the chief of Border Security Force (BSF)?**

- A.Prakash Desai**
- B.K.K.Sharma**
- C.S.S.Deswal**
- D.Rajni Kant Mishra**

**Answer: D**

**47) What is the position of India out of 162 countries, in this year's report on Economic Freedom in the World?**

- A.96**
- B.98**
- C.92**
- D.94**

**Answer: A**

**48) Globally, which University claimed first position in 'Times World University rankings 2019' for the third consecutive year?**

- A.Stanford University**
- B.University of Cambridge**
- C.University of Oxford**
- D.Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

**Answer: C**

**49) The Supreme Court on September 27 unanimously struck down Section \_\_\_\_\_ of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) that makes adultery a punishable offence for men.**

- A.417**
- B.445**
- C.499**
- D.497**

**Answer: D**

**50) Which of the following award is also known as 'Alternative Nobel Prize'?**

- A.Pulitzer Prize**
- B.Right Livelihood Award**
- C.Abel Prize**
- D.Ramon Magsaysay Award**

**Answer: B**

**USEFUL LINKS:**

[Free Current Affairs Quiz – August 2018](#)

[Free SBI PO Mock Test](#)

[Free Current Affairs Quiz – July 2018](#)

[Free SSC CHSL Mock Test](#)

<a href="#">Free Current Affairs Quiz – June 2018</a>	<a href="#">Free IBPS RRB Office Assistant Mock Test</a>
<a href="#">Free Current Affairs Quiz – May 2018</a>	<a href="#">Free IBPS Clerk Mock Test</a>
<a href="#">Free Current Affairs Quiz – April 2018</a>	<a href="#">Free IBPS PO Mock Test</a>
<a href="#">Latest Government Jobs Alert</a>	

**GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR EXAMS!!!**

 Freshers LIVE