

# **FRESHERSLIVE'S CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**Weekly Edition (24th Dec'18 - 31st Dec'18)**

**India's first music  
museum to be set up in  
Thiruvaiyaru**



**India's longest road-cum-rail  
bridge Bogibeel inaugurated**



**GST Council cuts tax rates on 17  
items, 6 services**

**4th Week Current Affairs  
December 2018**



**India's Agni-IV Missile  
successfully test-fired**

## Table of Contents

<b>1. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2. NATIONAL AFFAIRS</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3. BANKING &amp; FINANCE</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>4. SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>5. AWARDS</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>6. APPOINTMENTS</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>7. SPORTS</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>8. QUIZ CORNER</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>9. USEFUL LINKS</b>	<b>41</b>

## **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

### **India overtakes Germany to become seventh largest Stock Market**

- India's stock market has overtaken Germany's to become the seventh-largest in the world with a market capitalisation of **\$2.08 trillion**
- This is the **first time** in **seven years** that India moved past the equity market of Europe's largest economy, according to Bloomberg
- At \$27.07 trillion, **US** is world's biggest stock market, followed by **China** (\$5.46 trillion) and **Japan** (\$5.41 trillion)

### **Burundi names Gitega as new capital**

- Burundi confirmed the small central city of Gitega the country's new political capital
- **About Burundi:**
  - Capital: Gitega
  - Currency: Euro
  - President: Frank-Walter Steinmeier

- Language: Kirundi, French, and English

## **Japan announces IWC withdrawal, will resume commercial whaling**

- Japan is withdrawing from the **International Whaling Commission (IWC)** and will resume **commercial whaling** in July 2019, in a move expected to spark international criticism
- The IWC, established in **1946** to **conserve** and manage the world's **whale** and cetacean population, introduced a moratorium on commercial whaling in 1986

## **Thailand becomes 1st country in Southeast Asia to legalize medical marijuana**

- The junta-appointed parliament voted 166-0 to amend the **Narcotic Act of 1979** to legalise the medicinal use of marijuana
- Marijuana was used in Thailand to **relieve pain and fatigue** until its use was criminalised in the country in the **1930s**
- In Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia, marijuana traffickers who are caught, face capital punishment

## **Israel Parliament votes to dissolve government**

- Israel's Parliament, the Knesset, voted 102-2 to dissolve the government, triggering early general elections for April 9, 2019.

- Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu announced earlier this week his decision to disband his coalition.
- Netanyahu would be contesting the polls amid allegations of corruption against him and his wife.

## **India pips China in FDI inflows for the first time in 20 years**

- According to data from Dealogic, a global Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) and capital markets data provider, India has been getting more foreign investment than its neighbor China for the first time in two decades.
- In 2018, India whose financial market is supported by stable fundamentals, a bankruptcy code and fresh opportunities in sunrise sectors, saw more than \$38 billion of inbound deals compared with China's \$32 billion.
- China, which has historically been the favorite for emerging market bets, is facing slowdown nowadays because of its trade standoff with the United States.
- India has a busy Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) calendar in 2018 and it will continue to see good traction in inbound M&As besides, global investors are typically focusing on India despite short-term uncertainty over the political climate.

## **NATIONAL AFFAIRS**

### **GST Council cuts rates on 17 items, 6 services; rationalises 28% slab**

- The GST rate on **cinema tickets** above ₹100 was cut from **28% to 18%** and on tickets up to ₹100 from 18% to 12%
- Seven items that saw tax rates being slashed from the **28%** bracket are:
  - certain vehicle parts used in agriculture,
  - **monitors and TVs** up to 32 inches,
  - retreaded tyres,
  - **power banks**,
  - digital cameras,
  - **Video game** consoles (all from 28% to 18%), and
  - parts and accessories for the carriages for disabled persons (from 28% to 5%).
- Only **28 items** remain in 28% slab

## **Andhra, Himachal and Madhya Pradesh best performing states under maternity benefit programme PMMVY**

- Minister of State for the Women and Child Development Ministry Virendra Kumar released the performance of states and UTs under the maternity benefit programme named **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)**
- Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh topped the charts as the best performing states
- According to the finding, 51.70 lakh beneficiaries are covered annually under the PMMVY

## **Indian Railways launches new EMU train with 130 kmph speed**

- **Railway passengers** will soon get another high-tech train from the stable of the Integral Coach Factory (ICF)
- The new train –**Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU)** – commonly known as an electric train, running at a speed of 130 Kmph is ready for its trial launch
- The EMU train with higher passenger capacity already set off for Delhi (December 19), Sudhanshu Mani, General Manager

## **NGT bans mining within 10 km of Sariska Tiger Reserve**

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has banned all mining activities within 10 km of the **Sariska Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan**
- The order was issued following a plea challenging the environmental clearance granted to 24 mines within the 10 km radius
- The Supreme Court in **2006** had prohibited mining within **1 km** of national parks and sanctuaries

### **PM Modi releases Rs 100 commemorative coin in honour of ex-PM Vajpayee**

- On the eve of **Atal Bihari Vajpayee's 94th birth** anniversary, Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a **₹100** commemorative coin in the memory of the former premier
- The front of the Rs 100 coin features the National Emblem of India along with '**Satyamev Jayate**' in **Devanagari** script inscribed below
- The reverse side of the Rs 100 coin features a portrait of Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The former PM's name is written in both Hindi and English
- The new Rs 100 coin is an alloy of silver, copper, nickel and zinc

### **UP tops in atrocities by police**

- According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Uttar Pradesh registered **236 cases against police** personnel for human rights



violations between **2014 and 2016**, the **highest** in the country's total of 411 such cases during the same period

- Uttar Pradesh was followed by **Delhi** where **63 cases** of atrocities by police personnel were registered in the same period
- The cases of human rights violations by police personnel include disappearance of persons, illegal detention or arrests, fake encounter killings, extortion, assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty, atrocities on scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, torture among others

### **Jharkhand CM announced Rs 2,250 crore scheme for farmers**

- Jharkhand CM Raghubar Das announced a **₹2,250 crore** scheme to help **22.76 lakh** small and marginal **farmers** of the state
- Named **Mukhyamantri Krishi Ashirwad Yojana**, the scheme will provide farmers with a yearly financial assistance of **₹5,000 per acre** for **Kharif** crops
- The scheme will start from 2019-20 financial year

### **Odisha Government announced Rs. 10,000 Crore Scheme for Farmers Development**

- Odisha CM **Naveen Patnaik** announced a **₹10,000 crore** scheme named **Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA)**, which will provide farmers with **₹10,000** a year at the rate of **₹5,000 each** for **Kharif** and **Rabi** season

- Additionally, crop loans of up to **₹50,000** will be **interest-free** under the scheme

### **India's first music museum to be set up in Thiruvaiyaru**

- The country's first music museum will be set up with assistance from the Central government in **Thiruvaiyaru, Tamil Nadu**, the birthplace of Saint **Thyagaraja**, one of the Trinities of Carnatic music
- The other two of the Trinity are **Muthuswami Dikshitar** and **Syama Sastri**
- The Tyagaraja Aaradhana Music Festival which is held annually in January in Thiruvaiyaru attracts musical talents from all over the world

### **Rajnath Singh inaugurated over 150 projects in Lucknow**

- Union **Home Minister** Rajnath Singh inaugurated as many as **158** development projects in Lucknow on the 95th birth anniversary of late Prime Minister **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**
- He also laid the foundation stone for 418 development projects, making it to a total of **576 projects** worth **Rs 161 crore**
- Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had served as Member of Parliament from **Lucknow**

## **PM Modi inaugurated India's longest road-cum-rail bridge Bogibeel**

- Bogibeel Bridge in **Assam's Dibrugarh** is 4.94-km-long bridge, which will connect the north and south banks of the **Brahmaputra** and reduce travel time from **Assam to Arunachal Pradesh** to four hours
- It has a serviceable period of around 120 years
- Assam Governor - Jagdish Mukhi and
- Assam Chief Minister - Sarbananda Sonowal
- While inaugurating the Bogibeel bridge in May 2017, PM Narendra Modi dedicated it to the musician and film-maker **Bhupen Hazarika**

## **Maharashtra govt approved Rs 4,089 crore for Tembhu irrigation scheme**

- The scheme is about constructing barrages on the river **Krishna** near **Tembhu village** and lifting 22 billion cubic feet water to **irrigate** 80,000 hectare areas in seven talukas - Karad, Kadegaon, Tasgaon, Khanapur, Atpadi, Kavathe-Mahankal and Sangola - spread across Satara, Sangli and Solapur districts
- The project was conceptualised way back in **1996** at a cost of Rs 1,416 crore

## **Union Home Minister released List of Top 10 Performing Police Stations across India**

- The top three police stations in India for 2018 are **Kalu** (Bikaner, Rajasthan), **Campbell Bay** ( Andaman & Nicobar Islands) and **Farakka** (Murshidabad, West Bengal)
- Here is the list of top 10 performing police stations 2018 across the country, as per the position secured:
  - 1-Kalu (Rajasthan);
  - 2-Campbell Bay ( A&N Islands);
  - 3-Farakka (West Bengal);
  - 4– Nettapakkam (Puducherry);
  - 5– Guderu (Karnataka);
  - 6– Chopal (Himachal Pradesh);
  - 7– Lakheri (Rajasthan);
  - 8– Periyakulam (Tamil Nadu);
  - 9– Munsiyari (Uttarakhand);
  - 10– Curchorem (Goa).

## **Tripura government approved NCERT syllabus in schools**

- The Tripura government approved the proposal for replacing the school syllabus prevalent under the previous Left Front regime with the NCERT curriculum in all the State-run and aided schools from the next academic session, beginning April 2019.
- It had also suggested the implementation of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) syllabus across all government and government-aided schools in the State.

- The government had also decided to bring an ordinance to constitute a State-level higher education board in accordance with the directives of the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development.

## **President Ram Nath Kovind gives assent to two Bills from Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh**

- The 'Himachal Pradesh Early Childhood Care and Education Centers (Registration and Regulation) Bill 2017' aims to ensure quality education to children by providing all basic facilities.
- The 'Tamil Nadu Vanniyakula Kshatriya Public Charitable Trusts and Endowments (Protection and Maintenance) Bill 2018' aims to create a board in order to maintain and administer public charitable trusts and endowments, created by Vanniyar community members.

## **Bahuda Rookery is developed as another Olive Ridley Nesting Site in Odisha**

- Odisha forest department has started preparing the beach at the Bahuda river mouth in Ganjam district to lure the endangered turtles to come over for mass nesting next year.
- The Bahuda rookery is located around 20 km to the south of Rushikulya rookery coast, a major mass nesting site of olive ridleys on the Indian coastline.

## **BANKING & FINANCE**

### **RBI shortlists TCS, Wipro, IBM, 3 others for setting up Public Credit Registry**

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has shortlisted **six IT majors** including TCS, Wipro and IBM India to set up Public Credit Registry (PCR) for **capturing details** of borrowers and wilful defaulters
- The other shortlisted companies are:
  - Capgemini Technology Services India,
  - Dun & Bradstreet Information Services India, and
  - Mindtree.

### **UAE to give Pakistan USD 3 billion amid financial crisis**

- United Arab Emirates (UAE) will deposit **\$3 billion** in Pakistan's central bank to support its financial and monetary policy
- The UAE's support comes amid the current financial crisis in Pakistan
- The transfer of **11 billion dirhams** (USD 3 billion) by the government-owned **Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD)** to **State Bank of Pakistan** is expected to be carried out in the 'coming days'

## **India's Forex Reserves declined by USD 613.9 million to USD 393.12 billion**

- India's foreign exchange reserves declined in this week by **USD 613.9 million** reaching **USD 393.12 billion**
- This decline attributed to the fall
- The Forex reserves increased by USD 16.6 million to reach USD 393.734 million in the previous week

## **RBI to soon introduce new Rs. 20 banknotes**

- Despite the new notes coming into circulation, the old ₹20 notes will not be withdrawn
- According to the RBI data bank, there were **4.92 billion** pieces of Rs. 20 note in circulation as on March 31, 2016. The number more than doubled to about 10 billion pieces by March 2018
- The central bank has already issued new look currency notes in the denominations of **Rs. 10, Rs. 50, Rs. 100, and Rs. 500**. It had also introduced the **Rs. 200 and Rs. 2,000** bank notes
- The new look notes are being introduced since November 2016 under Mahatma Gandhi (New) series.

## **HDFC Group pipped Tata Group as India's largest business house worth Rs. 10.40 lakh crore**

- According to Bloomberg data, Deepak Parekh-led HDFC group overtook Tata Group become the country's largest conglomerate in terms of market capitalization.
- The total market capitalization (MACP) of the group's five listed companies is currently valued at Rs 10.40 lakh crore, which is Rs 1,185 crore more than that of Tata Group.
- HDFC Bank, a part of the group, is only the third company in Indian corporate history to cross the Rs 5-lakh crore market capitalization threshold, after TCS (Rs 7.16 trillion) and RIL (Rs 7.09 trillion).

## **ICICI topped list of banks penalising staff for fraud in 2015-2017: RBI data**

- According to data furnished by the Reserve Bank of India, between 2015 and 2017, private lender ICICI Bank penalized the highest number of employees for defrauding bank assets in the last three year out of 60 scheduled commercial banks operating in India.
- It is followed by State Bank of India and Punjab National Bank.



## **Government to infuse Rs.28,615 crore into 7 PSBs**

- The government plans to infuse Rs.28,615 crore into seven public sector banks (PSBs) through recapitalisation bonds by the end of December 2018. The amount infused will help the banks meet the regulatory capital requirement, and its disbursement might take place before December 31.
- Finance Minister Arun Jaitley that recapitalisation would enhance the lending capacity of PSBs and help them exit the RBI's Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework.
- Earlier the government had announced an infusion of Rs.65,000 crore in PSBs in 2018-19, of which Rs.23,000 crore has already been disbursed, while Rs.42,000 crore is remaining.

## **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

### **India successfully test-fired Nuclear-Capable Agni-IV Missile**

- India on 23rd December successfully test-fired nuclear strategic ballistic missile **Agni-IV** from **Dr Abdul Kalam Island** off the Odisha coast as a part of user trial by the Army
- The surface-to-surface missile has a **4,000-km strike range** and is equipped with advanced avionics, 5th generation on board computer and distributed architecture
- This is the **seventh trial** of Agni-IV missile

### **China launched first satellite for space-based broadband to rival Google**

- The satellite was launched from a **Long March 11** carrier rocket from the **Jiuquan** Satellite Launch Centre in north-western China
- The satellite is the **first** in the **Hongyun project** planned by China Aerospace Science and Industry Corp (CASIC)
- The Hongyun project, started in September **2016**, aims to build a space-based communications network to provide broadband internet connectivity to users around the world, especially those in the underserved regions

### **Russia successfully tested hypersonic missile ‘Avangard’**



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- The hypersonic missile could fly at **20 times the speed** of sound and manoeuvre up and down, meaning that it could breach defence systems
- Russia's **Avangard system** would be ready for use from 2019
- The missile was launched from the **Dombarovsky** missile base in the southern Ural Mountains and hit its target on a test site in Kamchatka, about **6,000km** away
- Avangard is designed using new composite materials to withstand temperatures of up to **2,000 degrees Celsius** that come from a flight through the atmosphere at hypersonic speeds

### **USTAAD: Railways develops AI-powered robot to check for faults in trains**

- The mechanical branch of Central Railway Nagpur division developed a new AI-powered robot named **USTAAD (Undergear Surveillance through Artificial Intelligence Assisted Droid)** which examines parts of the coach in real time with an HD camera and transmits them over WiFi.
- The new Artificial Intelligence (AI) powered robot will click photos and record videos of the train, under the gears and then transmits them over WiFi to engineers for maintenance and repair.
- Since USTAAD can watch and examine areas which cannot be seen and approached by humans usually, due to the narrow spaces between

under-gear parts, it will reduce chances of human error while examining undergear equipment on Indian Railways trains.

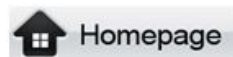
- The special features of the robot include HD (high-definition) camera that can be rotated in any direction as per commands are given by the engineer and can capture video as well as still photographs with zoom in or out facility.

## **AWARDS**



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## **Mamata Banerjee awarded the Skoch Chief Minister of the Year 2018 Award**

- **West Bengal** Chief Minister **Mamata Banerjee** has been chosen as the **best chief minister** of the country by the Skoch Group
- The chief minister of Bangla was given the award on the basis of the State's performance as measured on five parameters – governance, culture, finance, urban development and rural development
- The state's **Kanyashree scheme** for the girl child has earned Banerjee much acclaim and the highest public service honour from the **United Nations**
- In the field of agriculture, West Bengal has won five consecutive **Krishi Karman** awards and bagged the IPPAI Award for rural electrification in the state
- Besides Banerjee the Skoch Group, has also awarded Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister **N Chandrababu Naidu** with the '**SKOCH Sprinter of the Year**' and Commerce and Industry and civil aviation minister **Suresh Prabhu** as the '**Steady Reformer**'

## **Indian Railways Bags 17 Awards For Energy Conservation**

- Indian Railways **bagged 17 awards** at the 'National Energy Conservation Awards (NECA) 2018' held in New Delhi

- Under ‘transport’ category, Indian Railways obtained 10 awards for the subsector railway station. Vidisha railway station in Madhya Pradesh won the first prize
- Under ‘building’ category, Indian Railways got three awards for subsector Railway hospitals. Railway hospitals of Izzatnagar division won the first prize

### **Union Minister Suresh Prabhu Confers Skoch Golden Jubilee Challenger Award**

- Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu conferred the **Skoch Golden Jubilee Challenger Award** at the 55th Skoch Summit in New Delhi. The Skoch Challenger Awards are the highest independently instituted civilian honors
- The Commerce and Industry Minister was awarded for his contribution to reforms, particularly in the power sector reforms
- Other Awards Conferred:
  - 1. Skoch Chief Minister of the Year Award: Chief Minister of West Bengal Mamata Banerjee
  - 2. SKOCH Sprinter of the Year: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu.

## **Madhya Pradesh's Divya Patidar Joshi crowned Mrs. India 2018 title in New Delhi**

- Divya Patidar Joshi from Madhya Pradesh was crowned with Mrs. India 2018 title at the Mrs. India My Identity Beauty Pageant 2018 finale held in New Delhi.
- She defeated 24 promising contestants and won all the rounds of Beauty with Brain contest along with Best Catwalk title.

## **APPOINTMENTS**



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## **Chagari Praveen Kumar appointed as Chief Justice of new Andhra HC**

- He will become acting Chief Justice of AP High Court, with effect from Jan 1, 2019.
- Earlier, the Union Law Ministry issued an order signed by President Ram Nath Kovind, which said Andhra Pradesh will have its own High Court at its capital Amaravati and the Hyderabad High Court shall become High Court for Telangana.

## **Rajesh Subramaniam is appointed as CEO of FedEx Express**

- FedEx Express, a U.S. multinational courier delivery giant, has named Rajesh Subramaniam, an Indian-American, as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the firm. He will assume his new role on January 1, 2019.
- He replaces David L Cunningham. Mr. Subramaniam currently holds the executive vice- president, chief marketing and communications officer position of FedEx Corporation.
- He is an IIT-Bombay graduate from Thiruvananthapuram and has been with FedEx for more than 27 years.
- He has held various executive-level positions in the company.
- He began his career in Memphis and subsequently moved to Hong Kong where he oversaw marketing and customer service for the Asia-Pacific region.



## **P V Bharathi appointed Corporation Bank MD & CEO**

- She will take over the charge on or after February 1, 2019 and remain in the post till March 31, **2020**. Prior to this elevation, Bharathi was an Executive Director at Canara Bank
- Meanwhile, the Centre has also approved the appointment of **K Ramachandran** as Executive Director of **Allahabad Bank**
- **Balakrishna Aise** has now been appointed as Executive Director of **Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC)**

## **SPORTS**

### **India's Vedangi Kulkarni becomes fastest Asian to cycle the globe**

- **Vedangi Kulkarni**, a 20-year-old cyclist from Maharashtra's **Pune**, achieved the feat by completing the 29,000-km distance required to qualify as bicycling across the globe in 159 days
- She reached Kolkata on December 23 after pedalling up to 300 km a day in 14 countries across the 159 days
- British adventurer **Jenny Graham** (38) is the fastest woman to have cycled the globe in **124 days** in **2018**, which was three weeks faster than the previous record

### **ICC asks BCCI to pay Rs 161 crore compensation or lose rights to host 2023 World Cup**

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India has been involved in some legal battles of **late**
- International Cricket Council (ICC) asked the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to either pay **\$23 million (Rs 161 crore)** by the end of this year as compensation for the tax deductions incurred in hosting the **2016 World T20** or end up losing the World Cup **2023** rights

- **India** is supposed to host the **2021 Champions Trophy** and the 2023 World Cup, which again would come under jeopardy if BCCI fails to meet ICC's demands

## **Belgium ends the year as No. 1 in FIFA global rankings**

- **Belgium** will end the year as **No. 1** ahead of world champions **France** in the global rankings released by FIFA recently
- Belgium have **1,727** points by FIFA's calculations to 1,726 for France. **Brazil** are **third** on 1,676
- **FIFA rankings 2018:**
  - 1. Belgium,
  - 2. France,
  - 3. Brazil,
  - 4. Croatia,
  - 5. England,
  - 6. Portugal,
  - 7. Uruguay,
  - 8. Switzerland,
  - 9. Spain,
  - 10. Denmark

## **Mithali, Harmanpreet retained as India captains for New Zealand tour**

- **Mithali Raj** and **Harmanpreet Kaur** were named as Indian **women's ODI** and **T20I** captains respectively for the tour of New Zealand

- India will play three ODIs in New Zealand beginning January 24 as part of the ICC Women's Championship before playing three T20 Internationals

## **Former Australia captain Ricky Ponting inducted into ICC Hall of Fame**

- Former Australia captain **Ricky Ponting** became the 25th Australian cricketer to be officially inducted into the International Cricket Council's Hall of Fame at the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG)
- A three-time World Cup winner (including two World Cups as captain in 2003 and 2007), Ponting did a lap of honor as part of his induction during the tea break on Day-1 of the Boxing Day Test between India and Australia at MCG
- In February 2018, he was also inducted into the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame
- Ponting is the highest run scorer for Australia in both Tests and ODIs, with 13,378 runs in the longest format and 13,704 runs in the 50-over format

## **Modric beats Djokovic to win Balkan athlete of the year award**

- Croatia's captain and Spanish club Real Madrid's midfielder Luka Modric was named the Balkan Athlete of the year beating Men's tennis world number one player Novak Djokovic. The poll to name Balkan

Athlete of the year was organized by the Bulgarian News Agency (BTA).

- Serbian player Novak Djokovic got the second position whereas women's number one tennis Romania's Simona Halep got the third position in the Balkan's poll.
- Luka Modric leads Croatia to the FIFA World cup final and bagged player of the tournament for the FIFA 2018 organized in Russia.

## **QUIZ CORNER**

1) Who has been chosen as the 2018 best chief minister of the country by the Skoch Group?

- A.K Chandrasekhar Rao
- B.Yogi Adityanath
- C.Mamata Banerjee
- D.N Chandrababu Naidu

**Answer C**

2) Indian Stock Market has overtaken which of the following country to become the seventh largest in the world?

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

**Answer A**

3) On how many items, GST was recently reduced from 28% to 18%?

- A.Six
- B.Seven
- C.Five
- D.Eight

**Answer B**

4) Which country named Gitega as its new capital?

- A.Nairobi
- B.Mauritius
- C.Burundi
- D.Tanzania

**Answer C**

5) How many Indian IT majors have been recently shortlisted by RBI to set up Public Credit Registry (PCR) for capturing details of borrowers and wilful defaulters?

- A.Six
- B.Five
- C.Nine
- D.Seven

**Answer A**

6) On 23rd December 2018, India successfully test-fired Nuclear-Capable Agni-IV Missile, which has a strike range of \_\_\_\_\_ .

- A.2,500-km
- B.3,000-km
- C.4,000-km
- D.3,500-km

**Answer C**

7) According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), which state tops in atrocities by police, between 2014 - 2016?

- A.Madhya Pradesh
- B.New Delhi
- C.West Bengal
- D.Uttar Pradesh

**Answer D**

8) On the eve of Atal Bihari Vajpayee's 94th birth anniversary, Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a ₹\_\_\_\_\_ commemorative coin in the memory of the former premier.

- A.50
- B.200



C.100

D.20

**Answer C**

9) India's first music museum to be set up in \_\_\_\_\_.

A.Karnataka

B.Tamil Nadu

C.Maharashtra

D.Kerala

**Answer B**

10) Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the longest rail-cum-road Bogibeel bridge in \_\_\_\_\_.

A.West Bengal

B.Haryana

C.Assam

D.Odisha

**Answer C**

11) US Defence Secretary, who resigned over policy differences with President Trump was \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. James Mattis
- B. Patrick Shanahan
- C. Sonny Perdue
- D. James Richard Perry

**Answer A**

12) Who was named as Indian women's ODI captain for the tour of New Zealand, which begins on January 24?

- A. Jhulan Goswami
- B. Smriti Mandhana
- C. Mithali Raj
- D. Harmanpreet Kaur

**Answer C**

13) Which country will end the year as No. 1 ahead of world champions France in the global rankings released by FIFA recently?

- A. Belgium
- B. France
- C. Brazil
- D. Croatia

**Answer A**

14) Which country recently announced its withdrawal from International Whaling Commission (IWC)?

- A.China
- B.Indonesia
- C.Japan
- D.Sri Lanka

**Answer C**

15) Who has been recently appointed as managing director and chief executive officer of the Corporation Bank?

- A.P V Bharathi
- B.K Ramachandran
- C.Balakrishna Alse
- D.Birupaksha Mishra

**Answer A**

16) Which of the following police station bagged the top spot in the List of Top 10 Performing Police Stations 2018 across India?

- A.Andaman and Nicobar's Campbell Bay
- B.Tamil Nadu's Periyakulam
- C.Puducherry's Nettapakkam
- D.Kalu police station in Rajasthan's Bikaner

**Answer D**

17) The Centre has reportedly decided to rename Ross Island in Andaman and Nicobar as \_\_\_\_\_.

- A.Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Island
- B.Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Island
- C.Swaraj Dweep
- D.Shaheed Dweep

**Answer B**

18) Which of the following becomes 1st country in Southeast Asia to legalize medical marijuana?

- A.Singapore
- B.Malaysia
- C.Thailand
- D.Indonesia

**Answer C**

19) Where is the headquarters of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) located?

- A.Kolkata
- B.Srinagar
- C.New Delhi
- D.Hyderabad

**Answer D**

20) Which of the following has been awarded Best Capital City in the Solid Waste Management in the Swachh Survekshan 2018 rankings?

- A.Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC)
- B.Greater Mysuru Municipal Corporation (GMMC)
- C.Greater Bengaluru Municipal Corporation (GBMC)
- D.Greater Allahabad Municipal Corporation (GAMC)

**Answer A**

21) Who is the Prime Minister of Nepal?

- A.Sher Bahadur Deuba
- B.Sushil Koirala
- C.K.P.Sharma Oli
- D.Sher Bahadur Deuba

**Answer A**

22) Where is the Dharahara tower, which was recently on news, located?

- A. Bangladesh
- B. India
- C. Nepal
- D. Bhutan

**Answer B**

23) Who is the Minister of Earth Sciences?

- A. Jitendra Singh
- B. Anil Madhav Dave
- C. Harsh Vardhan
- D. Ghulam Nabi Azad

**Answer A**

24) Under which category did the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) place Ganges River Dolphins in Red list?

- A. Critically endangered
- B. Endangered
- C. Vulnerable
- D. Near Threatened

**Answer B**

25) How much percent of fare concession has been recently announced by Indian Railways for transgender senior citizens?

- A.50%
- B.20%
- C.35%
- D.40%

**Answer D**

26) Forty First Meeting of Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee Held in -----?

- A.New Delhi
- B.Chennai
- C.Hyderabad
- D.Secunderabad

**Answer A**

27) Which country Caps Expenditure Of Its Citizens In India?

- A.Nepal
- B.Pakistan

- C. Denmark
- D. Indonesia

**Answer A**

28) Which state Declares Kuno As National Park ?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Kerala
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Himachal Pradesh

**Answer A**

29) Who is concurrently accredited as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Liberia?

- A. Y.K. Sailas Thangal
- B. Henry Serrano Villard
- C. Edwin Allan Lightner
- D. David D. Newsom

**Answer A**



30) Who conferred Champions of Change award to Manipur CM N Biren Singh?

- A. Shri Venkaiah Naidu
- B. Shri Suresh Prabhu
- C. Shri Naresh Kumar
- D. Shri Karthick Kumar

**Answer A**

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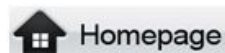
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