

# ***FreshersLive's Current Affairs***

**Weekly Edition (29th Oct'18 - 04th Nov'18)**



**Trump to end Birthright  
Citizenship**

**Moth-Key pollinators in  
Himalaya**



**World's largest statue in  
India**

**01st Week Current Affairs  
November 2018**



**Federer won Basel Open**

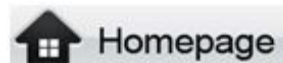
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## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### United Nations decided to launch project on creating India's intangible heritage inventory

- This project dubbed- **A snapshot inventory of intangible cultural heritage**, will be launched to protect the disappearing intangible cultural heritage of India
- This will include art forms, craftsmanship and other intangible cultural heritage of the country. The “Wiki-styled project” would be executed through “crowd-sourcing”
- **About United Nations:**
  - Headquarters: New York.
  - Founded: 24, October 1945

### Russia to hold Taliban meeting

- **Russia** has **quietly** invited a group of senior Afghan politicians to talk with the **Taliban in Moscow**
- This talk has bypassed President Ashraf Ghani's government and has angered officials in Kabul who say it could muddle the U.S.-backed peace process
- The Afghan officials also said that the government was unhappy that Moscow was pressing ahead with plans for talks
- In August, Russia proposed to hold multilateral peace talks in Moscow and invited 12 countries and the Taliban to attend a summit the following month

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- But **President Ashraf Ghani rejected** the invitation on the grounds that talks with the Taliban should be led by the Afghan government and hence the meeting was postponed. The **U.S. also declined** to attend.

## US plans to cancel birthright citizenship

- President Donald Trump announced his plans to sign an **executive order** to end the **birthright citizenship** provision
- It is by no means clear that the President has the legal authority to effect such a broad legal change through an executive order
- **Birthright Citizenship of USA:**
  - A person is a Citizen if they are born in the United States.
  - The concept of **jus soli (right of the soil)** is derived from the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, enacted in 1868 after the Civil War
  - The amendment was made in order to grant legal rights to former slaves
  - It says: “All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside”
  - Therefore, the children born in the U.S. to the parents who are on temporary visas or without a valid visa, also become U.S. citizens.

## **Netherland to be partner country for 25th DST-CII Technology Summit 2019**

The Kingdom of Netherlands will be the Partner Country 25th DST – CII Technology Summit to be organized in 2019 announced Dr.Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

## **World's largest airport under one roof opened in Istanbul, Turkey**

- **World's largest airport terminal** under one roof with a capacity to serve 90 million passengers was opened in **Istanbul, Turkey**
- It has been constructed as a part of the phase-1A of the project, Istanbul New Airport
- It has been constructed by – IGA and the first phase costed 7.5 billion Euro. It has five pier blocks as well as 77 boarding gates and 143 aero-bridges

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## **NATIONAL AFFAIRS**

### **Maneka Gandhi Inaugurated fifth Edition Of Women of India National Organic Festival**

- The 5th edition of the ‘**Women of India National Organic Festival**’ was inaugurated by Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, Union Minister for Women and Child Development, at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi
- The Festival celebrates and **promotes women entrepreneurs/producers** and farmers in the organic field from across India

### **PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the Statue of Unity**

- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Statue of Unity or Sardar Patel’s statue**, the world’s largest statue, on the statesman's 143rd birth anniversary in Gujarat. The statue has been dedicated to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, fondly known as the **Iron Man of India**
- The statue stands in the midst of the Narmada River, on the islet of Sadhu Bet Sardar Patel is credited for unifying all of the 562 princely states in pre-independence India to form what is today the Republic of India
- The statue is made up of 1,700 tonnes of bronze, 1,850 tonnes of bronze cladding, 70,000 metric tonnes of cement and 24,500 metric tonnes of steel

## **DoNER Minister Dr Jitendra Singh laid foundation stone of Technology Facility Center at Jorhat, Assam**

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Dr Jitendra Singh laid the foundation stone of new Science Centre, the “**Technology Facility Centre**” (TFC) in Jorhat, Assam
- For setting up the new Science Centre, the **Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region** (DoNER) had allocated Rs.40 crore for its construction
- It would be institutionalized by Department of Science & Technology (S&T) and CSIR

## **India invited Italy to invest in defence sector**

- India invited Italy to participate in the defence sector under the “**Make in India**” scheme. The invitation also included an agreement to counter terrorist financing and state sponsors of terrorism
- This latest announcement was the first time when the two countries have agreed on joint defence production since the **Augusta Westland** case exploded in 2013
- During the **9th Military Group Meeting** that was held between India and Italy, both the countries agreed on cooperation in 2019
- Mr.Conte’s visit is the first since he took charge in June 2018. He also showed his support for India’s quest for membership in the Nuclear Suppliers Group and underlined Rome’s support to India’s membership in the global technology export groups.

## Chandrababu Naidu announced the Rayalaseema Steel Plant will be launched

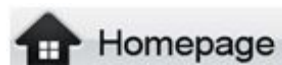
- Chief Minister N.Chandrababu Naidu announced that the **‘Rayalaseema Steel Plant’** in Kadapa district will be launched within a month if the BJP-led NDA government failed to act
- At the seventh edition of ‘Dharma Porata Deeksha,’ the Telugu Desam Party’s flagship campaign aimed at exposing the Centre’s alleged injustice to Andhra Pradesh, Mr. Naidu said the State would take up the project on its own by providing the required sops if the Narendra Modi government continued to drag its feet over the project

## Delhi's Signature Bridge inaugurated 14 years after conceptualisation

- **Signature Bridge** over the **Yamuna river** is double the height of **Qutub Minar** and connects the Wazirabad across the river Yamuna to the inner city
- It will reduce the travel time between north and northeast Delhi from 45 minutes to just 10 minutes, saving the pollution and fuel
- With features like a 154-metre high observation deck and selfie spots, the bridge will also serve as a tourist spot

## Centre to launch women’s emergency helpline facility

- National women’s emergency helpline facility is to be launched in India. Women in distress can call helpline 181
- Women can get assistance for any situations such as police, medical, legal, psycho-social or rescue shelter emergency

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- In Tamil Nadu, the 1091 helpline is functioning in providing assistance for women. It provides police assistance to women in distress
- However, for 24x7 service, 181 helplines, under the Department of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme, will provide all types of assistance and information to women. The helpline will function from the Amma Call Centre premises in Ambattur.

### **Nineteenth Meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council held under the Chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley**

- The main objective is to review the current global and domestic economic situation and financial sector performance.
- The issues discussed in the meeting were:
  - The issue of real interest rate, current liquidity situation, including segmental liquidity position in NBFCs and mutual fund space
  - Developments regarding the strengthening of Cyber Security in the Financial Sector.

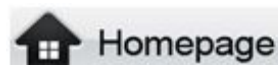
### **Kolkata tops 'Ease of Moving Index 2018' by Ola Mobility Institute**

- Kolkata tops in public transport index in terms of cleanliness and affordability of public transport
- New Delhi was rated highly in terms of safety and ranked the best among the big cities in affording parking space to its residents



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- Patna and Bhubaneswar topped the list for growing and emerging cities

### **Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched portal for granting loans of up to Rs 1 crore in 59 minutes**

- GST-registered Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) can now avail of loan of up to Rs 1 crore in just 59 minutes. Over 72,000 MSMEs have been sanctioned loans worth over ₹23,500 crore through the portal till date
- Further, the mandatory sourcing limit by state-run companies from MSMEs has been increased to 25% from the previous 20%
- Modi added that companies above a Rs 500 crore will now have to compulsorily be a part of TReDs (Trade Receivables Discounting System), which will also include PSUs

## AWARDS AND HONOURS

### **BEML received Top Challengers and Best Mining Equipment Seller Award**

- **Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML)**, a Mini Ratna Public Sector Undertaking, under the Ministry of Defence, received the prestigious ‘Top Challengers Award 2018’ for the excellent performance during the financial year 2017-18 and Best Seller in Crawler Equipment-Dozers and Rigid Dump Truck segment for mining sectors.
- At a function held at Delhi, CMD BEML Shri Deepak Kumar Hota received the award from Construction Economist Mr. Graham D Robinson.

### **Prof. M S Swaminathan Received first World Agriculture Prize**

- **Prof. MS Swaminathan**, chief architect of India’s Green Revolution was awarded the **World Agriculture Prize for 2018**
- He received the award from Vice-President M.Venkaiah Naidu at the event hosted by the Indian Council of Food and Agriculture
- The M.S. Swaminathan Junior Research Fellowship to be awarded from 2019 onwards was also instituted on the occasion
- The fellowship would help promote linkages between agriculture, nutrition and health, through a ‘**Farming Systems for Nutrition**’ programme

## **Clara Sosa Won Miss Grand International 2018 In Myanmar**

- She won the Miss Grand International 2018 title at the 6th edition of the beauty pageant in Yangon, Myanmar
- She succeeds **Miss Grand International 2017** Maria Jose Lora of Peru

## **Malala Yousafzai to be honoured by Harvard University for her work promoting girls education**

- **Malala Yousafzai** will be honored by Harvard University for her work promoting girls' education
- Harvard's Kennedy School stated that Yousafzai will be conferred with the 2018 Gleitsman Award at a ceremony on 6th December
- The Gleitsman Award provides 125,000 US dollars for activism that has improved quality of life around the world

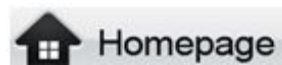
## **Roopam Sharma Won World Health Summit Startup Award In Berlin**

- **Roopam Sharma**, a 23-year old Indian scientist, won the World Health Summit Startup award, 2018 for his invention, Manovue the world's first intelligent personal assisting system for the visually impaired



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## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### ZSI scientists says Moths are key pollinators in Himalayan ecosystem

- The scientists of Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has revealed that **Moths (Lepidoptera)**, which is widely considered as pests, are pollinators to a number of flowering plants in the Himalayan ecosystem
- The scientists collected moth samples from states such as Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and West Bengal
- The analysis of proboscis, a long and thread-like organ used to suck flower sap, of a dozen moth species' revealed the presence of pollen grains
- Researchers have pointed out that almost two-thirds of common large moth species have declined over the last 40 years in some parts of the world
- One of the main reasons for the decline is light pollution

### KAU initiated a mission to rejuvenate hill garlic

- The **Kerala Agricultural University (KAU)** has initiated a study on the **farming practices of garlic** followed in the hills of Kanthalloor and Vattavada areas of Idukki district of Kerala
- This move is to promote the variety Malai poondu or hill garlic that is on the verge of extinction



- Malai poondu or hill garlic are known for its unique flavour, pungency, taste, medicinal properties and longer shelf life, that is 180 days
- Due to long duration of cultivation the tribal farmers of the area started to cultivate hybrid varieties or short duration, 90 to 120 days, varieties
- The study by KAU said that the major problems faced by the hill garlic cultivation are the small size of the bulb, lack of awareness on scientific cultivation practices and wild animal attack
- KAU also suggested that by following scientific practices, the crop duration can be reduced

### **IIT-Madras researchers designed India's 1st microprocessor 'Shakti'**

- The '**Shakti**' family of processors was fabricated at ISRO's Chandigarh semi-conductor laboratory, making it the first 'RISC V Microprocessor' to be completely designed and made in India
- Shakti microprocessor can be used in mobile computing devices, embedded low power wireless systems and networking systems
- 'Shakti' will reduce dependency on imported microchips and the risk of cyber attacks

### **CSIR developed Less Polluting Firecrackers named SWAS, SAFAL and STAR**

- These crackers developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) are 15-20 percent cheaper than the conventional ones and free from harmful chemicals.

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- SWAS stands for Safe Water releaser, SAFAL stands for Safe minimal Aluminum and STAR stands for Safe Thermite cracker.
- The crackers will come in the market after the approval from Petroleum and Explosive Safety Organization (PESO), which is the nodal agency for safety requirements in manufacture, storage, transport of all types of explosives.

### **Scientists said that the oceans are heating up 60 percent faster**

- Scientists from the **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** said that the world's oceans have absorbed **60% more heat** than previously thought over the last quarter of a century leaving Earth more sensitive still to the effects of climate change
- The Scientists also said that the world's oceans have absorbed 90% of the temperature rise caused by man-made carbon emissions
- But new research found that for each of the last 25 years, oceans had absorbed heat energy equivalent to 150 times the amount of electricity mankind produces annually
- That is 60% higher than what previous studies showed
- The IPCC warned that drastic measures need taking in order to limit global warming to 1.5 Celsius by the end of the century but the world produced a record amount of carbon emissions in 2017

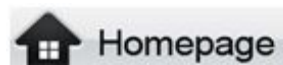
## **World's largest supercomputer switched on for the first time**

- The world's largest neuromorphic supercomputer **SpiNNaker** (**'Spiking Neural Network Architecture' machine**), which was designed and built to work like a human brain, has been switched on for the first time. Made up of one million processors, SpiNNaker can complete over 200 million-million actions per second
- The supercomputer will help scientists better understand how neurological diseases like Parkinson's impact the brain



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## **BANKING AND FINANCE**

### **Reserve Bank of India to inject Rs 40,000 crores into banking system via OMO in November 2018**

- This will be done through the purchase of government securities under open market operations for an aggregate amount of Rs. 400 billion in the month of November 2018
- This will help ease a cash shortage in the system and stabilize debt market rates

### **India topped as Asia most investment savvy economy: Standard Chartered**

- According to a new Standard Chartered study, ‘The Emerging Affluent Study 2018-Climbing the Prosperity Ladder’, India is Asia’s most investment savvy economy
- The survey markets were: China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Singapore, South Korea, the UAE

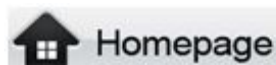
### **State Bank of India and Hitachi Payments formed joint venture for digital payment platform**

- State Bank of India (SBI) and payments solution provider Hitachi Payment Services India entered into an agreement to form a joint venture for establishing a card acceptance and digital payment platform
- According to the joint venture (JV), Hitachi will pick up 26 percent stake in SBI Payment Services, a wholly-owned subsidiary of SBI



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- The JV will have various payment options to customers and merchants

### **RBI allowed banks to provide PCE to NBFC bonds**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) permitted banks to provide Partial Credit Enhancement (PCE), or a partial guarantee, to bonds issued by systemically important Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFC) and Housing Finance Companies (HFC)
- The move is to enhance their liquidity position
- It also said that the bonds backed by PCE from banks should only be utilised for refinancing the existing debt of the NBFC-ND-SIs/HFCs
- Banks should introduce appropriate mechanisms to ensure that the end-use condition is met
- The exposure of a bank by way of PCEs to bonds issued by each such NBFC-ND-SI/HFC shall be restricted to 1% of capital funds of the bank within the extent single/group borrower exposure limits

### **Reliance Industries receives India's first LC payment via blockchain**

- In a first for India, British bank HSBC Holdings Plc has executed a trade finance transaction using blockchain for a deal involving an export by Reliance Industries to an American client, Tricon Energy. Blockchain massively reduced the time taken for processing the documents



## **SPORTS**

### **Simona Halep becomes first Recipient Of Chris Evert WTA World No.1 Trophy**

- She is the first recipient of the Chris Evert Women's Tennis Association (WTA) World No.1 Trophy, named after WTA's first-ever world number one, Chris Evert

### **Roger Federer won 99th career title in his hometown**

- He won his 99th career title after winning the **Basel Open** for the ninth time in his career
- Federer, who was born in the Swiss city of Basel, won his fourth title of the year in the form of the Basel Open

### **Indian Golfer Khalin Joshi Clinches Panasonic Open India Title**

- **Khalin Joshi** became the seventh Indian to win the Panasonic Open India title in the last eight editions of the tournament
- He finished second best after finishing with a par on the 18th

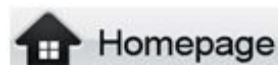
### **Elina Svitolina won WTA Finals in Singapore**

- She defeated Romania's Sloane Stephens 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 and won the season-ending WTA Finals
- This is the biggest title in Elina Svitolina career



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## **India win eighth consecutive ODI series against Windies**

- **India defeated** Windies by 9 wickets in the fifth ODI at Thiruvananthapuram to clinch the five-match series 3-1 and win their eighth consecutive ODI series against Windies
- With scores of 140, 157 not out and 107 in the first three games, Kohli became the first Indian to score three consecutive hundreds in the 50-over format
- India Team Captain - Virat Kohli, Windies Team Captain - Jason Holder

## **Pankaj Advani becomes first Indian to win Asian Snooker Tour title**

- The 33-year-old from Pune, **Pankaj Advani** became the first Indian to win an **Asian Snooker Tour event** after defeating China's Ju Reti 6-1 in the final in Jinan, China
- Pankaj is Nineteen-time world champion
- He won Padma Bhushan, Padma Shri, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, Arjuna Award for Billiards & Snooker

## **QUIZ CORNER**

1) Which company fired 48 employees for sexual harassment in past two years?

- (a) Google
- (b) Samsung
- (c) Apple
- (d) Verizon

**Answer: (a)**

2) Which state announces drought in 180 talukas chalking out eight schemes to provide relief in affected areas?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) West Bengal

**Answer: (a)**

3) Which country appoints Sahle-Work Zewde As 1st Female President?

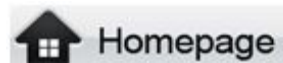
- (a) Pakistan
- (b) Ethiopia
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) North Korea

**Answer: (b)**



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4) Who Won Bronze Medal In World Wrestling Championships?

- (a) Pooja Dhanda
- (b) Varun Karthik
- (c) Dinesh Gupta
- (d) Suresh Kumar

**Answer: (a)**

5) Which country Becomes Second Largest Solar Market: MERCOM?

- (a) India
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) Indonesia

**Answer: (a)**

6) Which place NATO's Biggest Military Maneuvers Begins ----- ?

- (a) Norway
- (b) China
- (c) Australia
- (d) Denmark

**Answer: (a)**

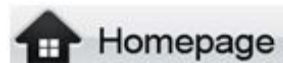
7) From which date Indian Railways UTS app to book unreserved tickets online?

- (a) November 1st
- (b) December 3rd



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- (c) February 2nd
- (d) March 5th

**Answer: (a)**

8) Scientists recently found that \_\_\_\_\_ are key pollinators in Himalayan ecosystem.

- (a) Moth
- (b) Pollen wasps
- (c) Bees
- (d) Flower beetles

**Answer: (a)**

9) Which of the following company is to be acquired by India Cements Ltd.?

- (a) Transworld Garnet India Private Limited
- (b) IGC Mining Private Limited
- (c) Springway Mining Private Limited
- (d) NLCI Mining Private Limited

**Answer: (c)**

10) Which bank to inject Rs 40,000 crores into banking system via OMO in November 2018?

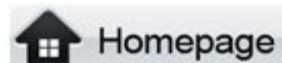
- (a) Yes bank
- (b) Canara Bank
- (c) Reserve Bank of India
- (d) Dena Bank

**Answer: (c)**



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11) Where is the headquarters of United Nations?

- (a) New york
- (b) Russia
- (c) Geneva
- (d) Denmark

**Answer: (a)**

12) Which state joined with British Council on educational collaboration?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Tamil Nadu

**Answer: (a)**

13) Who Inaugurates 5th Edition Of ‘Women Of India National Organic Festival’?

- (a) Shri Dinesh Gupta
- (b) Shri Maneka Gandhi
- (c) Shri Suresh kumar
- (d) Shri Nitish Kumar

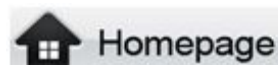
**Answer: (b)**

14) With which of the following company did the trade union coordination committee of autorickshaw drivers of Ernakulam district sign an agreement for management of e-auto feeder service of the Koch metro?



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- (a) Infotech Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
- (b) Allsec Pvt. Ltd.
- (c) Technovia Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
- (d) Kerala Feed Pvt. Ltd.

**Answer: (c)**

15) What is provided under the Snehasparsham project in the flood-hit Kerala?

- (a) Rs.1 lakhs and shelter
- (b) providing 25Kg rice and fodder
- (c) e-servicing & lost certificates
- (d) 100 bags of cattle feed

**Answer: (d)**

16) Which of the following has declared drought in 151 tehsils in 26 districts?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Uttarakhand

**Answer: (a)**

17) India win their \_\_\_\_\_ consecutive ODI series against Windies.

- (a) Fifth
- (b) Eighth
- (c) Seventh
- (d) Sixth



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**Answer: (b)**

18) Which of the following did Madras HC ban regarding drugs?

- (a) False practising
- (b) Selling for high price
- (c) Online drug sale
- (d) drug that are banned by USFDA

**Answer: (c)**

19) Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on 31 October 2018 embarked on a three-nation visit to Botswana, Zimbabwe and \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Ethiopia
- (b) Tanzania
- (c) Nigeria
- (d) Malawi

**Answer: (d)**

20) Under which department did Tamil Nadu govt. provide assistance for women for their emergency?

- (a) Department of Women and Child welfare
- (b) Department of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme
- (c) Department of Human Affairs
- (d) Department of Human Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme

**Answer: (b)**

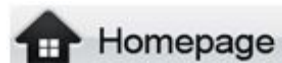
21) Amid rising air pollution, 'Clean Air Week' is being observed from November 1 to 5 in \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Goa



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- (c) Uttar Pradesh
- (d) Bihar

**Answer: (a)**

22) Which country has recently announced to withdraw from United Nations' (UN) migration pact?

- (a) Brazil
- (b) Austria
- (c) Canada
- (d) France

**Answer: (b)**

23) Which naval ship returned after 205-day world tour?

- (a) INS Tarangini
- (b) INS Viraat
- (c) INS Satpura
- (d) INS Shakthi

**Answer: (a)**

24) Under which department did Tamil Nadu govt. provide assistance for women for their emergency?

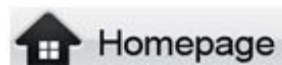
- (a) Department of Women and Child welfare
- (b) Department of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme
- (c) Department of Human Affairs
- (d) Department of Human Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme

**Answer: (b)**



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25) Which rank did India obtained in Global Passport Index?

- (a) 65
- (b) 25
- (c) 35
- (d) 28

**Answer: (a)**

26) Which rank did India secure in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index 2018?

- (a) 103rd
- (b) 77th
- (c) 54th
- (d) 89th

**Answer: (b)**

27) Which country inked a \$950 million deal for inducting two new warships equipped with Brahmos missiles in the India Navy?

- (a) Russia
- (b) Indonesia
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) Pakistan

**Answer: (a)**

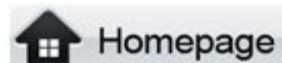
28) Which country To Be Partner Country for 25th DST-CII Technology Summit 2019?

- (a) Netherland



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- (b) Andorra
- (c) Australia
- (d) Botswana

**Answer: (a)**

29) 49th International Film Festival of India, IFFI 2018, will be held in Goa. Olu, the opening film in IFFI 2018 is made in which of the following language?

- (a) Tulu
- (b) Telugu
- (c) Malayalam
- (d) Tamil

**Answer: (c)**

30) India will become 3rd largest aviation market in world by \_\_\_\_\_

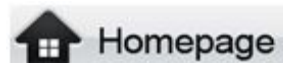
- (a) 2020
- (b) 2021
- (c) 2022
- (d) 2019

**Answer: (a)**



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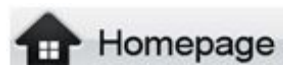
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