

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS OF JULY 2018**

### **Awards**

The renowned vocalist who has been chosen for the 2018 Sangita Kalanidhi Award by the Music Academy, Madras – **Aruna Sairam**

The book written by Michael Ondaatje which has won the Golden Man Booker Prize (Best of Man Booker Prizes) commemorating 50th anniversary of Man Booker Prize – **The English Patient**

The well-known artist who has been awarded the Kalidas Samman by the Madhya Pradesh government for her contribution to visual arts – **Anjolie Ela Menon**

### **Sports**

Pakistan cricket player who has become the quickest in history to score 1000 runs (in 18 matches) in one-day internationals breaking the record of Vivian Richards who scored it 21 matches – **Fakhar Zaman**

The Japanese badminton player who has defeated Indian shuttler PV Sindhu to win the Thailand Open Women's Singles title – **Nozomi Okuhara**

The Australian captain who has broken his own record of highest individual score of 158 runs in T20i by scoring 172 runs against Zimbabwe – **Aaron Finch**

The three former cricketers who have been inducted in the ICC Hall of Fame – **Rahul Dravid, Ricky Ponting and Claire Taylor**

The team which has won the 2018 Dubai Kabaddi Masters' title defeating Iran in the finals – **India**

The team which has won the Hockey Champions Trophy 2018 defeating India in the finals at Breda, Netherlands – **Australia**

### **Committees**

The committee set up by Insurance Regulatory Development Authority to address issues relating to third party motor insurance liability is headed by – **Shri M Ramprasad**

The committee set up by the University Grants Commission to regulate the fees chargeable by self-financed Deemed to be Universities in Medical and Dental Courses is headed by – **Prof. MC Deka**

The committee set up by University Grants Commission to look into the matters related to examination reforms is headed by – **Prof. MM Salunkhe**

The committee set up by the Government of India to look into the issue of industrial pollution around the Taj Mahal is headed by – **Shri C.K. Mishra**

The committee set up by the Government of India has decided to set up a committee to suggest measures to strengthen National Cadet Corps (NCC) and National Service Scheme (NSS) is headed by – **Shri Anil Swarup**

### Defence

The biennial multi-national large force employment warfare exercise conducted by the Royal Australian Air Force from 24 Jul 18 to 18 Aug 18 in which the Indian Air Force is participating for the first time is named – **Exercise Pitch Black 2018 (PB-18)**

The former Chief of Naval Staff who passed away on 02 July 2018 – **Admiral JG Nadkarni**

### Places

The State which has decided to celebrated Independence Day of India as Shaheed Samman Diwas to honour martyrs – **Madhya Pradesh**

The country for which Indian PM Shri Narendra Modi has launched countrywide emergency ambulance services set up with grant assistance from India – **Sri Lanka**

The country which has lifted its state of emergency 2 years after it was imposed following a failed coup attempt – **Turkey**

The State which has launched a programme named Paudhagiri aimed at increasing its green cover – **Haryana**

The venue of 59th International Mathematical Olympiad held from July 4 to 14 at which India won 3 silver and 2 bronze medals – **Cluj Napoca, Romania**

The Indian State which has become the third in the country to grant minority status to Jews (after West Bengal and Maharashtra) – **Gujarat**

The city in Canada where 17th World Sanskrit Conference is being held from 09 to 13 July 2018 (inaugurated by Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar) – **Vancouver**

The place in Uttar Pradesh where the world's largest mobile phone factory was jointly inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and South Korean President Moon Jae-in – **Noida**

The place in Andhra Pradesh where UNESCO is setting up Design University for Gaming in collaboration with Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board – **Visakhapatnam**

### Technology

The software launched by Govt of India to enable editing of scanned documents (supporting Hindi, Bangla, Malayalam, Gurmukhi, Tamil, Kannada & Assamese) is named – **e-Aksharayan**

The mobile app launched by Union Minister of Coal, Railways, Finance & Corporate Affairs, Shri Piyush Goyal for reporting any activity taking place related to illegal coal mining like rat hole mining, pilferage etc. is named – **Khan Prahari**

The mobile app launched by the Chief Election Commissioner to enable citizens to report any violation of the model code of conduct during elections is named – **cVigil**

### **Space**

The country for which China has launched 2 remote sensing satellites named PRSS-1 and PakTES-1A from its Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre – **Pakistan**

### **Persons**

The Indian mountaineer who has become the second Indian to climb the highest volcano in the world, Mt Ojos del Salado located in South America – **Satyarup Siddhanta**

The legendary folk singer of Kumaoni language (Uttarakhand) who passed away on 07 July in Pithoragarh – **Kabutari Devi**

The former Supreme Court judge who has been appointed the Chairman of National Green Tribunal – **Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel**

### **Miscellaneous**

The theme of the 10th edition of Delhi Dialogue, a premier annual track 1.5 event to discuss politico-security, economic and socio-cultural engagement between ASEAN and India – **Strengthening India-ASEAN Maritime Co-operation**

The Indian language in which BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) has launched its first television bulletin in India – **Gujarati**

The new headquarters building of Archaeological Survey of India inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently is named – **Dharohar Bhavan**

The new name of Agartala Airport as approved by the Union Cabinet – **Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore Airport**

### **Golden Globe Race 2018**

Non-stop circumnavigation of the earth

**Occasion:** To commemorate Sir Robin Knox-Johnston's historic 1968/9 world first solo non-stop circumnavigation.

**Commenced:** Les Sables d'Olonne harbour in France.

**Details:** Participants are to sail non-stop around the world via the five Great Capes and return to the harbour. They are allowed to use only boats and equipment available to Sir Robin in 1968. Hence no GPS etc is allowed.

**Indian participant:** Commander Abhilash Tomy of Indian Navy on his sailing vessel Thuriya built by M/s Aquarius Shipyard Ltd at Goa.

### Institutes of Eminence

The Government has shortlisted Six Institutions of Eminence (IoEs) including 3 from Public Sector and 3 from Private Sector.

#### **Public Sector:**

- a. Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Karnataka
- b. Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, Maharashtra
- c. Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

#### **Private Sector:**

- a. Jio Institute (Reliance Foundation), Pune under Green Field Category
- b. Birla Institute of Technology & Sciences, Pilani, Rajasthan
- c. Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, Karnataka

In order to select the Institutions as IoEs, an Empowered Expert Committee (EEC) comprising of **Shri N. Gopalaswami** (Chairman), Prof. Tarun Khanna, Prof. Pritam Singh & Smt. Renu Khatore was formed. A grant of Rs. 1,000 crore will be given to public institutions under the programme.

### Nominations to Rajya Sabha

The President of India has nominated the following persons to the Rajya Sabha in exercise of his powers under Article 80 of Indian Constitution.

**Shri Ram Shakti:** He is an eminent people's leader and public representative from Uttar Pradesh, who has devoted his life for the welfare and well-being of the Dalit community.

**Shri Rakesh Sinha:** A respected and widely read author, Shri Rakesh Sinha is the Founder and Honorary Director of the Delhi-based think-tank "India Policy Foundation."

**Shri Raghunath Mohapatra:** He is an internationally renowned authority on stone carving. Practicing since 1959, he has trained over 2000 students. He has contributed to the preservation of traditional sculpture and ancient monuments, and has worked on the beautification of the Sri Jagannath Temple, Puri. His famous works include a 6 feet high statue of the Sun God carved in grey sandstone, in the Central Hall of Parliament; and the Wooden Buddha, Buddha Temple, Paris.

**Smt Sonal Mansingh:** She is among India's foremost exponents of Indian Classical Dance. She has been performing Bharatnatyam and Odissi for over six decades. She founded the Centre for Indian Classical Dances, in Delhi in 1977.

### Wimbledon 2018

<b>Title</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>
Gentlemen's Singles	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)	Kevin Anderson (South Africa)
Ladies' Singles	Angelique Kerber (Germany)	Serena Williams (United States)
Gentlemen's Doubles	Mike Bryan and Jack Stock (USA)	Raven Klaasen (South Africa) and Michael Venus (New Zealand)
Ladies' Doubles	Barbora Krejcikova and Katerina Siniakova (Czech Republic)	Nicole Melichar (USA) and Kveta Peschke (Czech Republic)
Mixed Doubles	Alexander Peya (Austria) and Nicole Melichar (USA)	Jamie Murray (UK) and Victoria Azarenka (Belarus)

### Student Police Cadet programme for nationwide implementation

Launched by : Union Home Minister **Shri Rajnath Singh**

Launched at **Gurugram, Haryana**

The SPC programme focuses on students of Classes 8 & 9. The programme does not have any prescribed textbook nor is any exam envisaged. Only one class in a month is proposed. The programme seeks to cover broadly two kinds of topics, - crime prevention and control and values and ethics.

**Background:** The scheme was first launched by Govt of Kerala in 2010. The 41st All India Police Science Congress held in Dehradun recommended all states of India to adopt the project.

In 2012 Rajasthan govt decided to launch the programme in its school.

### AIFF Player of the Year Awards

Player of the Year 2017 - **Sunil Chhetri**.

Woman Footballer of the Year 2017 - **Kamala Devi**

Emerging Player of the Year 2017 - **Anirudh Thapa**

emerging Woman Footballer of the Year 2017 - **E Panthoi**

Award for Best Grassroots Development Programme - **Kerala FA**

### 3rd BRICS Film Festival

Venue: **Durban, South Africa**

Date: 22 to 27 July 2018

### **Awards won by Indian films**

Best Actress: **Bhanita Das**, Village Rockstars

Best Film: **Newton** by Amit Masurkar

Special Jury Award: **Village Rockstars** by Rima Das

The last day of the festival was celebrated as India Country Day, followed by Awards and Closing Ceremony.

### **Mission Satyanistha**

Launched by: **Indian Railways**

- a. To train every employee to understand the need and value of ethics in Personal and Public life.
- b. To deal with ethical dilemmas in life and Public Governance.
- c. To help understand the policies of Indian Railways on ethics and integrity and the employee's role in upholding the same.
- d. To develop inner governance through tapping inner resources.

### **Important Days of July**

<b>International Day of Co-operatives:</b> 01 July 2018 Designated by: United Nations General Assembly First observed: 1993 Theme: Sustainable Societies through Cooperation
<b>World Population Day:</b> 11 July 2018 Designated by: United Nations Development Programme First observed: 1989 Theme: Family Planning is Human Right
<b>World Youth Skills Day:</b> 15 July 2018 Designated by: UNESCO First observed: 2015
<b>Nelson Mandela International Day:</b> 18 July 2018 Designated by: UN General Assembly First observed: 2010
<b>World Hepatitis Day:</b> 28 July 2018 Designated by: World Health Organisation First observed: 2008 Theme: Test Treat Hepatitis
<b>International Tiger Day:</b> 29 July 2018 Designated by: St Petersburg Tiger Summit First observed: 2010

**World Day against Trafficking in Persons:** 30 July 2018

Designated by: United Nations General Assembly

First observed: 2014

Theme: Responding to the trafficking of children and young people

### Indian recipients of Ramon Magsaysay Award 2018

**Dr. Bharat Vatwani:** Psychiatrist and founder of Shraddha Rehabilitation Foundation in 1989. He works to unite mentally ill street people with their families. He has united 2000 people with their families so far.

**Sonam Wangchuk:** Ladakhi engineer, innovator and education reformist. Founder of Students Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh (SECMOL). He invented the Ice Stupa technique that creates artificial glaciers used for storing winter water in form of conical shaped ice heap.

### Mob lynchings - Measures taken by Central Govt

In order to formulate appropriate measures to address the situation, Government has set up a high level committee chaired by the **Union Home Secretary** to deliberate in the matter and make recommendations. The Secretary, Department of Justice, Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs, Secretary, Legislative Department and Secretary, Social Justice and Empowerment are the members of the committee. The committee will submit its recommendations to the Government within four weeks.

Government has further decided to constitute a Group of Ministers headed by the **Union Home Minister** to consider the recommendations of the high level committee. The Minister, External Affairs, Minister, Road Transport and Highways; Shipping, Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Minister, Law & Justice and Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment are the members of Group of Ministers. The Group of Ministers will submit their recommendations to the Prime Minister.

### Project RAMA

RAMA stands for Reconstituting Asteroids into Mechanical Automata

Project to be implemented by : Made in Space Inc (California based company)

Funded by : NASA

**Aim:** To turn asteroids into giant, autonomous spacecrafts which could fly into space outposts.

### SAFAR - System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting

Unveiled by Science & Technology, Earth Sciences; Environment, Forest & Climate Change Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan.

System developed by: **Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune**

Operationalized by: Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)

The giant true colour LED display gives out real-time air quality index on 24x7 basis with colour coding alongwith 72-hour advance forecast. In addition to monitoring and forecasting of regular air quality and weather parameters, the **Chandni Chowk** air quality station will also measure sun's UV-Index and will provide measurement of online automatic ultrafine particles PM1 and Mercury, both of which have direct relevance to human health. Based on UVI, skin advisories will be issued on display.

### Most Important Features of the new 100 rupee note

The RBI has announced the issuance of new 100 rupee note which has several features. Some of the important features are given below.

- a. Base colour of the note is LAVENDER
- b. Motif of RANI KI VAV (World heritage site in Gujarat)
- c. Swachh Bharat logo with slogan
- d. For visually impaired intaglio or raised printing of Mahatma Gandhi portrait, Ashoka Pillar emblem, raised triangular identification mark with micro-text 100, four angular bleed lines both on the right and left sides.

### New GST rates

The Govt of India recently changed the GST rates of many items. The following is the list of items on which GST has been made 0% from the existing 18%/12%/5%.

1. Stone/Marble/Wood Deities
2. Rakhi [other than that of precious or semi-precious material of chapter 71]
3. Sanitary Napkins
4. Coir pith compost
5. Sal Leaves siali leaves and their products and Sabai Rope
6. Phool Bhari Jhadoo [Raw material for Jhadoo]
7. Khali dona (empty cups and plates)
8. Circulation and commemorative coins, sold by Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd [SPMCL] to Ministry of Finance.

### FIFA World Cup 2018

Held from 14 Jun to 15 Jul 2018

Venue: **Russia**

Participating teams: **32**

Matches played: **64**

Mascot: **Zabivaka (wolf)**



Match ball: **Telstar 18**

Official Song: **Live it up (by Nicky Jam)**

Winners: **France (2nd time)**

Runners-up: **Croatia**

Top scorer: **Harry Kane (England)**

Best Player: **Luka Modric (Croatia)**

Best Goalkeeper: **Thibaut Courtois (Belgium)**

Best Young Player: **Kylian Mbappe (France)**

Fair Play Award: **Spain**

### **GDP of Top 10 countries - 2017**

Released by: World Bank

Rankings

#	Country	GDP (million \$)
1.	United States	19,390,640
2.	China	12,237,700
3.	Japan	4,872,137
4.	Germany	3,677,439
5.	United Kingdom	2,622,434
<b>6.</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>2,597,491</b>
7.	France	2,582,501
8.	Brazil	2,055,505
9.	Italy	1,934,798
10.	Canada	1,653,043

### **IAAF U20 Championships 2018**

Held from **10 Jul to 15 Jul 2018**

Venue: **Ratina Stadium**, Tampere (Finland)

Medals Tally

#	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.	Kenya	6	4	1	11
2.	Jamaica	4	5	3	12
3.	United States	3	8	7	18
18.	India	1	0	0	1

**Note: Hima Das of Assam**, India was the lone medal winner at the event becoming the first Indian to win a medal in a track event at similar championships. She ran **400m race at 51.46 secs** to win the gold. Neeraj Chopra was the first Indian to win a gold at World U20 Championships which he did in 2016 in Javelin throw.

### **Ease of Doing Business – Rankings 2018**

Prepared by World Bank and Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion

Rankings

#	State	Score
1.	Andhra Pradesh	98.42
2.	Telangana	98.33
3.	Haryana	98.07
4.	Jharkhand	97.99
5.	Gujarat	97.96
6.	Chhattisgarh	97.36
7.	Madhya Pradesh	97.31
8.	Karnataka	96.40
9.	Rajasthan	95.68

**Note: Ranks 10 to 15** are in Achievers category - West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Tamil Nadu. **Rank 16 to 18** are in the Fast Movers category - Himachal Pradesh, Assam and Bihar. The rest are in Aspirers category.

### **National Doctors Day**

Held on: 01 July 2018

Commemoration: Birth and death anniversary of Dr. BC Roy CM of West Bengal and an eminent physician

Theme: Zero tolerance for violence against health professionals and clinical establishments

Send your comments, corrections and suggestions to [admin@leadthecompetition.in](mailto:admin@leadthecompetition.in)