

# Monthly One-Liner GK Digest: October 2018

## Banking and Financial Awareness:

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed state-owned oil companies to borrow long-term working capital from overseas up to 10 billion US dollar.
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), had launched Udyam Abhilasha, a National Level Entrepreneurship Awareness Campaign, in 115 Aspirational Districts identified by NITI Aayog.
- State Bank of India has slashed the daily withdrawal limit on its classic debit card from Rs 40,000 to Rs 20,000 effective from October 31st 2018. For the development of human resources, State Bank of India has signed a MoU with Kathmandu-based National Banking Institute (NBI).
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- For the Current Year (July 2018-June 2019), National Housing Bank (NHB) has decided to increase the Refinance Limit from Rs. 24,000 crores to Rs. 30,000 crores towards refinancing eligible institutions.
- India's 1st Cryptocurrency ATM where Users can deposit money to buy currencies like Bitcoin and Ethereum using an OTP received on their registered numbers. Installed in Bengaluru
- IDFC Bank proposed to change its name to 'IDFC First Bank Ltd' for its amalgamation with the non-banking financial company Capital First.
- Fino Payments Bank, has been allowed to open new accounts by RBI.
- For enhancing climate resilience for millions of people living in India's coastal communities, UN-backed fund Green Climate Fund (GCF) has approved US \$43.4 million.

## Appointments

- World Federation of Exchanges (WFE) Appoints Vikram Limaye as Chairman of Working Committee.
- Sanjay Verma Appointed India's Ambassador to Spain.
- Ranjan Gogoi has sworn-in as 46th Chief Justice of India.
- Rangachari Sridharan Appointed Chairperson of National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA).
- Gita Gopinath, India-born Harvard University professor has been appointed as the Chief Economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Pravin Srivastava, appointed as the Chief Statistician of India (CSI).
- Mahesh Reddy Takes Over as PHDCCI Secretary-General.
- BankBazaar has appointed S S Mundra former RBI Deputy Governor as an advisor.
- Nimesh Shah, has been elected as Chairman of trade body, Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).
- Priyank Kanoongo appointed to the post of Chairperson of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)

- Sahle-Work Zewde appointed as first-ever female President of Ethiopia.
- Satish K Gupta Appointed as MD & CEO of Paytm Payments Bank.

## Honour, Awards and Ranks

### Winners of Nobel Prize

Winner	Field	description
Denis Mukwege (Congo) and Nadia Murad (Iraq)	Peace	efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict
James P Allison (USA) and Tasaku Honjo (Japan)	Physiology or Medicine	discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation
William D. Nordhaus (USA) Paul M. Romer (USA)	Economic Sciences	integrating climate change into long-run macroeconomic analysis integrating technological innovations into long-run macroeconomic analysis.
Arthur Ashkin (USA), Gerard Mourou (France) and Donna Strickland (Canada)	Physics	for ground-breaking inventions in the field of laser physics
(a) one half to Frances H. Arnold (USA) (b) other half jointly to George P. Smith (USA) and Sir Gregory P. Winter (UK)	Chemistry	(a) for the directed evolution of enzymes (b) for the phage display of peptides and antibodies

- Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has won the 'ISSA Good Practice Award' for Administrative Solution for Coverage Extension at the "Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and the Pacific.
- World's largest telecom tower company (outside China), Indus Towers, won the Deming Prize for 2018.
- Japan surpassed Singapore to have the most powerful passport, according to 2018 Henley Index.
- India ranked 147th in Oxfam world inequality index, by UK-based charity 'Oxfam International's report.
- In recognition of the work for rural electrification Union Minister Piyush Goyal will receive the prestigious Carnot Prize from the Ivy League University of Pennsylvania.
- Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018 Bagged by Marsel Van Oosten for the image, called "The Golden Couple,".
- Arshdeep Singh, a 10-year-old boy from Punjab, has won the Wildlife Photographer of the Year award in 10 Years and Under category given by UK's Natural History Museum, for the picture titled 'Pipe Owls'.
- Suheil Tandon Wins International Olympic Committee Award for his contribution to sports for development.
- The 2018 Man Booker Prize won by Irish author Anna Burns for her novel 'Milkman'.

- India has secured ninth rank out of top 50 valuable national brands, according to a report titled 'Nation Brands 2018' released by Brand Finance.
- India has jumped five spots to become the 58th most competitive economy on the Global Competitiveness Index 2018 released by World Economic Forum.
- A 23-year old Indian scientist, Roopam Sharma, won the World Health Summit Startup award, 2018 for his invention, Manovue – the world's first intelligent personal assisting system for the visually impaired.
- Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML), received the prestigious 'Top Challengers Award 2018' for the excellent performance during the financial year 2017-18.
- For the contribution to international cooperation and fostering global economic growth, Narendra Modi has been conferred with the Seoul Peace Prize for 2018.
- Invest India' initiative of the Union Government won the top United Nations Investment Promotion Award in recognition of its efforts to boost investments in the renewable energy sector in India.
- Prof Ashis Mukherjee, was awarded the prestigious Indian National Science Academy (INSA) Teachers Award (2018).
- **Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony for the years of 2014, 2015 & 2016**
  - Sh. Rajkumar Singhajit Singh (For 2014).
  - Chhayanaut (a cultural organization of Bangladesh, for 2015)
  - Sh. Ram Vanji Sutar (for 2016).

### Obituaries

- Renowned harmonium player Pandit Tulsidas Borkar passed away
- Legendary musician Annapurna Devi has passed away.
- Environmentalist G.D. Agarwal, passed away.
- Paul Allen, Microsoft co-founded passed away.
- Japanese-born Marine biologist Osamu Shimomura, passed away.

### Important Dates

- Air Force Day- 8th October
- World Teachers' Day- 5th October, theme for this year's WTD is "The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher,"
- World Animal Day – 4th October
- World Habitat Day 2018 – 1st October
- International Coffee Day – 1st October, theme 'Women in Coffee'.
- World Migratory Bird Day – 13th October
- International Day for Disaster Reduction- 13th October, theme is 'Reducing Disaster Economic Losses'.
- International Day of the Girl Child- 11th October, theme was 'With Her: A Skilled Girl Force'.

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- World Mental Health Day- 10th October, theme is 'Young People and Mental Health in a Changing World'.
- **World Post Day** – 9th October.
- **World Food Day** - 16 October in honour of the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in 1945.
  - Theme - "Our Actions Are Our Future".
- **World Food Day** - October 16
  - Theme - 'Our actions are our future- A zero hunger world by 2030 is possible'.
  - Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas - 15th October.
- World Polio Day: 24th October
- United Nations Day: 24 October
- World Development Information Day: 24 October
- World Day for Audiovisual Heritage: 27 October, theme is "Your Story is Moving".

## MOU's, Agreement and Summits

- Indian Railways Signed Agreements with Government of Russian Federation for development of cooperation in transport education.
- For coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) signed an MoU with the UN Environment.
- For promoting innovative cooperation between students of India and Russia, an MoU was exchanged between India's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and the Russian Federation's SIRIUS Educational Foundation
- To finance the upgrade of 2,800 kilometers all-weather rural roads in the State of Madhya Pradesh, the government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$110 million loan under the Prime Minister's Rural Roads Program (PMGSY).
  - MoUs signed Between India and Russia
  - in the field of Human Spaceflight Programme.
  - for Prioritization and Implementation of Cooperation Areas in the Nuclear Field.
  - Cooperation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
  - Cooperation Agreement in the Fertilizers Sector
  - on Bilateral Cooperation in the Road Transport and Road Industry
- To Boost Defence and Military-Technical Cooperation, India and Kazakhstan signed an Agreement.
- To establish a Global Skills Park (GSP) in Madhya Pradesh, Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$150 million Loan Agreement in New Delhi.
- for providing safe and sustainable drinking water to about 1.65 million people in three districts of the state of West Bengal affected by arsenic, fluoride, and salinity, the government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed \$240 million loan.
- By using Indian grant assistance of 60 crore Srilankan rupees, India and Sri Lanka has signed two MoU for construction of 1200 houses through 50 model villages.

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- For cooperation in various fields like environment, culture and education, for the next 3 years, Delhi government signed a twin-city agreement with the government of Moscow.
- For setting up of the Satish Dhawan Center for Space Science in the University, The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) signed an MoU with the Central University of Jammu (CUJ) in Jammu.
- To enhance data-driven governance, IIT-Madras collaborated with Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA).
- J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, inaugurated '2nd World Conference on Access to Medical Products: Achieving the SDGs 2030' in New Delhi.
- 4- day long mega science expo, India International Science Festival (IISF-2018) concluded in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, theme "Science for Transformation".
- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu attend the 12th Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) summit in Brussels, Belgium.
  - Theme - "Global Partners for Global Challenges".
- To review the progress being made in addressing the agreed actions of the previous meeting held in Abu Dhabi, 6th meeting of the UAE – India High Level Joint Task Force on Investments ('the Joint Task Force') was held in Mumbai.
- C. R. Chaudhary, Minister of State for Commerce & Industry and Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, attended the 6th RCEP Inter-Sessional Ministerial Meeting (IMM) in Singapore.
- To address issues of farmers and depleting groundwater level in the state, Punjab government has signed four MoUs with Israeli institutions.
- First trilateral meeting between India, Afghanistan and Iran of Coordination Council of Chabahar Agreement was held in Tehran, Iran.
- For enhancing inland and coastal waterways connectivity, India and Bangladesh signed agreements to use Chattogram and Mongla Ports.
- State-owned Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) has won an additional \$777 million contract to supply LRSAM air and missile defence systems to seven ships in the Indian navy.
- To provide a forum for discussion of key physics and technology issues as well as innovative concepts of direct relevance to the use of nuclear fusion, 27th Fusion Energy Conference (FEC 2018) was held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- To reduce adverse environmental conditions, Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has launched Harit Diwali-Swasth Diwali campaign.

## Important news - world

- Aung San Suu Kyi, Myanmar leader became the first person to be stripped of the honorary Canadian citizenship for her role in gross human rights violations against the Rohingya people.
- Canada agreed to sign a trade deal with the United States and Mexico, revamping the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the new deal named as the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

- To disseminate authentic information about AYUSH system of medicine and encourage Ayurveda practice in Romania, Ministry of AYUSH has set up an AYUSH Information Cell at the premises of the Indian Embassy in Romania.
- With the highest vote, India has been elected to the United Nations' Human Rights Council
- First joint programme for Afghanistan to train its diplomats has been launched by India and China.
- 2nd International Conference on Primary Health Care (PHC) towards UHC & SDGs', at Astana, Kazakhstan, theme "The Future of Primary Health Care".
- Nine years after construction began, China has opened the longest sea-crossing bridge ever built, The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge connects Hong Kong and Macau to the mainland Chinese city of Zhuhai.

### Important News- India

- To develop an action plan to address skills gaps in India and make Indian workforce ready for jobs of future, Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has launched the "Closing the Skills Gap Task Force" in India in collaboration with World Economic (WEF).
- Union Ministry of Civil Aviation has released a policy on biometric based digital processing of passengers at airports called Digi Yatra, operational by the end of February, 2019 at Bengaluru and Hyderabad airports.
- 4th India International Science Festival-2018 held in Lucknow, theme is "Science for Transformation".
- National Dolphin Research Centre (NDRC) will be set up on the banks of the Ganga river in Patna, Bihar.
- To provide assistance to earthquake and tsunami victims in Indonesia, India has launched a massive humanitarian operation "Samudra Maitri".
- Chennai based Geographical Indication Registry and Intellectual Property India has granted Alphonso Mango, better known as 'Hapus' in Maharashtra from 5 districts of Maharashtra- Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) launched India's first comprehensive city-level a Flood Forecasting and Early Warning System (FFEWS) for Kolkata City, Asian Development Bank (ADB) funded \$1 million technical assistance to KMC.
- 36th National Games will be held in Goa next year from March 30 to April 14.
- India's 1st 'Methanol Cooking Fuel Program' Launched In Assam, inaugurated by Dr V K Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog and Chairman at Namrup.
- Country's biggest skill competition, India Skills 2018 has concluded in New Delhi and the winners were awarded by Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Anant Kumar Hegde.
- For providing financial assistance to the children of the construction workers for their technical education, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched 'Nirman Kusuma' programme.
- To help entrepreneurs from SC/ST Communities, Karnataka Government has unveiled 'Unnati Scheme'.
- To examine modalities for revenue mobilisation in case of natural calamities and disasters, Government constituted a seven-member ministerial panel headed by Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Modi

- For the construction of a textile tourism complex in Nongpoh, Centre provided Rs 7.8 Crore Textile Tourism Complex in Meghalaya.
- To provide access to capital to MSMEs, NSE Signs Pact with Uttarakhand Govt.
- In New Delhi, country's biggest skill competition, India Skills 2018 has concluded.
- To tackle air pollution in the National Capital Region, The Centre has reconstituted Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority or the EPCA.
- For new Roll On-Roll off (Ro-Ro) facility connecting Neamati to Manjuli Island in Assam, Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) in collaboration with Assam Government has launched.
- Maneka Gandhi, Union Minister for Women and Child Development, announced setting up a four-member committee to examine all #MeToo cases.
- PM Narendra Modi dedicated the National Police Memorial (NPM) to the nation in New Delhi.
- Government has increased the rate of interest for General Provident Fund (GPF) and other related schemes by 0.4% points to 8%.
- To effectively manage and respond to disasters affecting the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the sixth meeting of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) at New Delhi.
- Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has launched Artificial Intelligence (AI) powered Chabot- Ask Disha (Digital Interaction to Seek Help Anytime)
- To help users with various queries, IRCTC launches AI chat bot 'Ask Disha' to answer user queries.
- 6th edition of India International Silk Fair (IISF) was held at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi, inaugurated by Union Minister of Textiles Smriti Irani.
- According to global airlines' body International Air Transport Association (IATA), India will become the world's third largest aviation market around 2024 surpassing the UK.
- India's First Domestic Cruise 'Angriya' Flagged Off from Mumbai operate between Mumbai and Goa.
- To examine and strengthen the existing legal and institutional frameworks for dealing with matters of sexual harassment of women at the workplace, Union Government constituted a four-member Group of Ministers (GoM).
- Parliamentary panel will examine the functioning of retirement fund body Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), its coverage and recovery of arrears, headed by BJP MP Kirit Somaiya.
- 22nd National Level Meeting between India and Myanmar was held in New Delhi, for providing of security cooperation along with international border and facilitating movement of people and trade across the international border.
- Second edition of India Mobile Congress (IMC-2018) was held in New Delhi, theme was "New Digital Horizons. Connect. Create. Innovate".

## Defence

- sixth edition of IBSAMAR, a joint Multi-National Maritime Exercise between the Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies, is being held at Simons Town, South Africa.
- Ukraine began a large-scale air force exercises The "Clear Sky 2018" with the United States and other NATO countries.

- First-ever joint military exercise 'DHARMA GUARDIAN-2018' between India and Japan will be held at Mizoram.

## Sports News

- India's Keerthana Pandian has won the girls' title in the IBSF World Under-16 Snooker Championships in St Petersburg, Russia.
- Archer Harvinder Singh Clinches Seventh Gold for India in the Asian Para-Games in Jakarta.
- Pistol shooter Saurabh Chaudhary has bagged the Gold Medal in the 10-meter air pistol event in Youth Olympic Games in Argentina.
- Indian under-19 cricket team has defeated Sri Lanka by 144 runs in the summit clash of the 2018 ACC Under-19 Asia Cup in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Thangjam Tababi Devi became India's first judo medallist at the Olympic level in the finals of the women's 44kg category in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- India has secured 5th rank in the latest International Cricket Council (ICC) global Women's T20I Team Rankings
- India's Akash Malik became first silver-medallist in archery at the Youth Olympic Games.
- 3rd Asian Para Games took place in Jakarta, Indonesia, India wins 72 medals (15 gold, 24 silver, and 33 bronze medals).
- Sourav Kothari clinched the 2018 WBL World Billiards Championship title.
- Pooja Dhanda won a bronze medal in the women's freestyle 57kg weight class in Wrestling World Championships, held in Budapest, Hungary.
- Virat Kohli has become the fastest batsman to score 10,000 runs in the history of ODI cricket.
- **The Denmark Open –**
  - Men's Singles - Kento Momota (Japan)
  - Women's Singles - Tai Tzu-ying (Chinese Taipei)
- Praveen Kumar, former Indian fast bowler, has retired from all forms of international cricket.
- Wrestler Bajrang Punia won the silver medal in the 65kg final of the Wrestling World Championships in Budapest, Hungary.
- Mumbai has defeated Delhi to win third Vijay Hazare Trophy title at M Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru.