

Monthly One-Liner GK Digest: September 2018

Banking and Financial Awareness:

- DBS Bank has been named the world's best bank by Global Finance magazine, to invest in digital innovation while still maintaining stable operations for its customers.
- Chief executive officer - Piyush Gupta
- Headquarters – Singapore
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) has been rated as number one state-owned bank in terms of digital transactions.
- The Reserve Bank of India has released new guidelines for all notes which were introduced post note ban, or notes which were introduced as part of the Mahatma Gandhi New Series.
- Government has doubled the monetary limit up to 20 lakh rupees for filing loan recovery application in the Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRT) by banks and financial institutions.
- HDFC ERGO, a non-life insurance provider, announced the launch of a Cyber Insurance Policy for individuals 'E@Secure', for providing comprehensive protection to individuals and their families against any cyber-attacks, cyber frauds or digital threats.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned Rs 335 crore to West Bengal under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF).
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) directed all scheduled commercial banks with more than 10 branches to appoint an Internal Ombudsman (IO) to ensure that the complaints of the customers are redressed.
- Temasek, Singapore-based global investment firm has signed an agreement to invest up to Rs 2,750 crore (\$400 million) in the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund's (NIIF)
- Mauritius was the top source of foreign direct investment (FDI) into India in 2017-18 followed by Singapore, according to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data.
- PayU India has received Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval to operate its own non-banking financial company (NBFC).
- For inducing liquidity in the system, Reserve Bank to purchase government securities (G-secs) worth Rs 10,000 crore.
- Federal Bank, signed a MOU with Info park Kakkanad for leasing space in their campus.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has approved Rs 65,634.93 crore loan so far to 93 prioritised irrigation projects under the government's flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY).
- PayU India has received approval from Reserve Bank of India's (RBI), to operate its own non-banking financial company (NBFC).
- To provide some succour to road accident victims, Insurance regulator IRDAI has raised the minimum insurance cover for owner-driver to Rs. 15 lakhs for a premium of Rs. 750 per annum.
- To provide life insurance solutions, especially at the doorstep of every household in the country, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) and Private Life Insurer Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co Ltd (BALIC) entered into a strategic partnership.
- Amalgamation of Bank of Baroda, Vijaya Bank, and Dena Bank has proposed by the government, to create India's 3rd largest globally competitive Bank.

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- For failing to stick to shareholding rules, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) barred Bandhan Bank from opening new branches and also ordered the freezing of the bank's CEO salary.
- A Mobile app called Jan Dhan Darshak has been developed by the Ministry of Finance and National Informatics Centre (NIC), as a part of financial inclusion (FI) initiative.
- BRICS' New Development Bank has approved a \$525-million loan for infrastructure projects in India.
- To boost employment in Madhya Pradesh, Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a \$150 million loan to establish the first multi-skills park.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved financing of up to \$500 million for a multi-tranche financing facility (MFF) infrastructure project in at least 10 cities of Tamil Nadu.
- To collaborate on creating a dual listing route for masala bonds and foreign currency bonds of Indian issuers, National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) and London Stock Exchange (LSE) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

Appointments

- Balesh Sharma Appointed Vodafone Idea's 1st CEO.
- Satya S Tripathi appointed as the Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- ICICI Bank reappointed Chanda Kochhar as director of ICICI Securities.
- Indian Boxer Mary Kom Signed as Brand Ambassador of BSNL.
- Arif-ur-Rehman Alvi elected as the 13th President of Pakistan.
- Justice Ranjan Gogoi will become the 46th Chief Justice of India after Dipak Misra.
- Moutaz Mousa Abdallah sworn as Sudan's new Prime Minister.
- Justice Om Prakash Mishra sworn as new Chief Justice of Nepal.
- Prashant Kumar has taken charge as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of State Bank of India
- Vibha Padalkar as its new managing director and CEO of HDFC Life.
- Scientist Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas appointed as the secretary of the Department of Atomic Energy and chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.
- Tajinder Mukherjee appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of National Insurance Company Limited (NICL).
- SBI Appoints Prashant Kumar as Chief Financial Officer (CFO).
- Vikram Misri Appointed as India's Next Ambassador to China.
- Google's privacy lawyer, Keith Enright, appointed as Chief Privacy Officer of Google.
- Anil Khosla appointed as new Vice Chief of Air Force.
- Former Hotstar CEO Ajit Mohan appointed as Facebook's Vice-President and Managing Director of its India operations.

Honour, Awards and Ranks

- Odia poet Satrugna Pandav honoured with the prestigious 'Sarala Puraskar' for his poetry collection 'Misra Dhruvad'.
- Aishwarya Rai Bachchan was honoured with the Meryl Streep Award for Excellence at the Women in Film and Television (WIFT) India Award.
- Index of Industrial production (IIP) grew at 6.6% in July, data released by Central Statistics Office (CSO).
- Anushka Sharma Receives Smita Patil Award during the 34th anniversary of Priyadarshni Academy Global Award, in Mumbai.
- Dr. Raghupati Singhanian, Chairman and MD, JK Tyre & Industries Ltd Conferred with Civilian Honour of Mexico.
- For beating the odds in water with their enduring skills and sailing across the world for eight long months, All-women crew of INSV Tarini has bagged the prestigious Tenzing Norgay National Adventure award.
- For innovative marketing campaigns, Kerala Tourism has won two prestigious gold awards of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA).
- India ranks third globally in terms of number of family-owned businesses with 111 companies, published by the Credit Suisse Research Institute (CSRI).
- Badminton player PV Sindhu is the only sports person to feature in the Forbes India's first 'tycoons of tomorrow' list of 22 young achievers in the fields of business, acting and sports.

Important Dates

- The National Sports Day - 29th August, to mark the birthday of legendary hockey player Major Dhyan Chand.
- International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances – 30 August
- International Day against Nuclear Tests – 29 August
- International Day of Charity: 5th September.
- World Literacy Day – 8th September. theme - "literacy and skill development."
- Engineer's Day - 15 September.
- International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer - 16th September, theme: 'The Montreal Protocol'.
- International Day of Democracy: 15 September, theme - 'Democracy under Strain: Solutions for a Changing World'.
- Hindi Diwas: 14 September
- International Day of Peace – 21st September, theme - "The Right to Peace - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70"
- World Heart Day - 29th September
- World Rabies Day – 28th September
- World Tourism Day – 27th September, theme - 'Tourism and the Digital Transformation'.
- Antyodaya Diwas - 25th September, to mark the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.

Obituary

- Neil Simon, a playwright and Broadway's master of comedy, passed away.
- US senator John McCain passed away.
- Football player Arthur Pereira passed away.
- filmmaker Kalpana Lajmi passed away.
- former Odisha Minister and freedom fighter Dolagobinda Pradhan passed away.

- Former BCCI President Biswanath Dutt Passes Away.
- Former Gujarat finance minister Manoharsinh Jadeja Passes Away.
- Marathi writer, novelist and translator Kavita Mahajan passes away.

Commentator Jasdev Singh passed away.

MOU's, Agreement and Summits

- For enhancing connectivity and access to economic centres across 12 districts in Karnataka, The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$346 million loan.
- Indian Railways and GAIL (India) Limited signed a MoU to provide infrastructure facilities for supply of Natural Gas to Indian Railways Workshops, Production Units and Depots at Rail Bhavan, this is for replacing Industrial gases like Dissolved Acetylene, LPG, BMCG and Furnace Oil / High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil with environment friendly Natural Gas.
- For Enhancing Innovation for Clean Energy Transition, The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, and the International Energy Agency (IEA) signed a MoU.
- To double farming incomes in Madhya Pradesh by expanding irrigation networks and system efficiency, the government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$375 million loan agreement.
- To support Rajasthan in improving the performance of its Electricity Distribution Sector under the State's '24x7 Power for All' program, The Union Government, Rajasthan and the World Bank signed a USD 250 million Development Policy Loan (DPL) agreement.
- For India Energy Efficiency Scale up Programme, The Central government and the World Bank have signed 300-million-dollar loan agreements.
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Organizes 2-Day Conference On Motivating & Attracting Youth in Agriculture and meet the challenge of providing sustainable livelihoods for a rapidly growing population.
- 6th RCEP Ministerial Meeting Begins in Singapore, led by Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu.
- Fourth Asian electoral stakeholders' forum (AESF-IV) begins in Colombo to discuss the state of elections and democracy in the region.
- Theme - 'Advancing Election Transparency and Integrity: Promoting and Defending Democracy Together'
- India and France have signed an implementation agreement on 'Mobilise Your City' (MYC) in the presence of Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) Hardeep Singh Puri.
- 4th World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA-2018) which provides platform to stakeholders to share their knowledge and information on accreditation, held at New Delhi, Inaugurated by the Union Minister for HRD Prakash Javadekar.
- World Hindu Congress has begun in Chicago, USA, theme - 'think collectively, achieve valiantly'.
- Prime Minister Modi inaugurated India's first Global Mobility summit 'MOVE', deliberated on 5 themes, comprehensive: electrification & alternative fuels, reinventing public transport, goods transport & logistics and data analytics and mobility, in New Delhi.
- The Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 3-day Defence & Homeland Security Expo and Conference – 2018, organised by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry in association with MSME in New Delhi.
- Ministry of Railways organized a Conference on "E-Mobility in Indian Railways" through Institution of Railways Electrical Engineers (IREE) in association with NITI Aayog concluded in New Delhi.

- The International Aviation Summit, organised by the Airports Authority of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation and International Air Transport Association (IATA) began in New Delhi, India.
- To discuss the expansion of Russia-India relationship across all sectors, the 23rd meeting of India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission (IRIGC-TEC) held in Moscow, chaired by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.
- To promote global commerce and the new industrial revolution, G-20 trade and investment ministerial meeting was held at Mar del Plata in Argentina.
- A U.S.-based firm, Cisco, that makes networking telecommunications equipment, has signed two agreements with the NITI Aayog and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to speed up its Country Digital Acceleration programme in India.
- BSNL, Unlimit, an end-to-end IoT service provider in India Ink Partnership for IoT/M2M Services in India
- To set up an ethanol plant in Panipat, Haryana government signed an MoU with Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) with an outlay of over Rs 900 crore.
- To bring together fundamental and applied research, innovation and technology development, NITI Aayog, Intel and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) are collaborating to set up a Model International Center for Transformative Artificial Intelligence (ICTAI).
- To deepen counter-terror cooperation, India, Iran and Afghanistan held their first tripartite meeting in Kabul, Afghanistan.
- First regional workshop on RERA (Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act) held in Pune, inaugurated by Hardeep Singh Puri.
- For construction of a 5000-metric ton temperature controlled warehouse in Dambulla, Sri Lanka, India and Sri Lanka signed an MoU.
- To provide a technological platform for nationwide prevention, control, screening and management program of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, exchanged the MoUs with the Tata Trusts and Dell.
- For construction of a 5000-metric ton temperature controlled warehouse in Dambulla, Sri Lanka, India and Sri Lanka signed an MoU.
- Delhi government signed an MoU with the Seoul Metropolitan in the fields of environment, tourism, wastewater and solid waste management, infrastructure and public health.
- For Insured Persons covered under the Employees' State Insurance Act, Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has approved a new scheme- Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna.
- For fighting the growing problem of counterfeit drugs in India, NITI Aayog and Oracle signed a Statement of Intent (Sol).
- To launch the Loo Review campaign to encourage all local guides in India to rate and review public toilets on Google Maps, The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has partnered with Google.
- For deepening cooperation between MSME sectors, India and Morocco signed a MoU.
- India and Uzbekistan signed Mou.
- on Mutual Cooperation in Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotics, Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors.
- on Cooperation in the Sphere of Law & Justice.
- for strengthening cooperation in the field of Tourism
- for the establishment of Uzbek-Indian Free Pharmaceutical Zone in the Andijan region of Uzbekistan.
- in the field of Agriculture and Allied sectors.
- on cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector.

- To roll out 5G and internet of things (IoT) technology in India, BSNL has inked a pact with Japan's Softbank and NTT Communications.

International

- For boosting the country's struggling economy, Argentina has received \$57.1 billion from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- Under the World Wildlife Foundation's (WWF) 'Tx2' programme which aims to double the number of tigers all over the world by 2022, Nepal has become the first country in the world to double its tiger population in a decade.

Important News – World

- The 4th BIMSTEC Summit began in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Main focus – on countering terrorism, enhancing regional connectivity and boosting trade.
- Theme - 'Towards a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable Bay of Bengal region'.
- The G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Meeting was held in Salta, Argentina, hosted by Argentina by end of 2018.
- Theme - 'Building consensus for fair and sustainable development'.
- Annual joint military exercise named Rapid Trident has been launched by Ukraine, with the United States and other NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) member countries.
- International Women Entrepreneurs Summit 2018 is being held in Kathmandu, Nepal. theme - "Equality begins with Economic Empowerment".
- 87th Izmir International tradeshow which begins in Turkey, India is the Partner Country.
- With an aim to deepen India's strategic cooperation with the two key nations in the ASEAN region, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj begun her four-day tour of Vietnam and Cambodia.
- Second edition of Nepal-China joint military exercise (JME) named Mt Everest Friendship Exercise-2018 (Sagarmatha Friendship-2018) commenced in China's south-western Sichuan province.
- Russia has launched its biggest military exercise since the Cold War named "Vostok-2018", China and Mongolia also take part in "Vostok-2018".
- To promote global commerce and the new industrial revolution, G-20 trade and investment ministerial meeting at Mar del Plata in Argentina.

Important News- India

- India's first biofuel-powered flight landed in Delhi, developed by Indian Institute of Petroleum, covering the distance between Dehradun & Delhi.
- The third edition of World's Biggest Open Innovation Model - Smart India Hackathon 2019 - was launched in New Delhi, by the Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Prakash Javadekar.
- The Union Government has announced that under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, the treatment of childhood cancer will be covered.
- Former Reserve Bank of India governor Bimal Jalan has been appointed by The Union Government as the head of the panel that has been tasked with selecting India's next chief economic advisor (CEA).
- India Gets Its 1st Ever Dedicated Dog Park in Hyderabad across an area of 1.3 acres.

- Prime Minister of India launched the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' Movement, to boost nationwide public participation in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, and catalyse the fulfilment of Bapu's dream of a Clean India.
- Cabinet approved a proposal for the complete electrification of Indian Railways by 2021-22, will cost the government Rs12,134 crores.
- The National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI), started operations in Vadodara.
- Jaipur Literature Festival began in Houston at the Asia Society of Texas.
- To combat human trafficking, the West Bengal government has rolled out a scheme, Swayangsiddha, means self-reliance.
- Cabinet approved new Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan, PM-AASHA for ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce.
- The 'first ever' India Tourism Mart (ITM 2018) inaugurated by Union Minister for Railways and Coal, Piyush Goyal.
- Jaipur Literature Festival began in Houston at the Asia Society of Texas.
- An online software for processing applications for Agmark quality certification mark, for agricultural products, was launched by Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh.
- To enable micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to get the in-principle approval of loans, Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has launched a portal www.psbloans59minutes.com
- Sikkim's first-ever airport at Pakyong was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which is India's 100th functional airport and one of the country's five highest airports.
- Andhra Pradesh has topped Ease of Living Index rankings under AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) followed by Odisha and Madhya Pradesh.
- To institutionalize a mechanism to support efforts intended to preserve, document, promote and disseminate Indian Cuisine, Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the Indian Culinary Institute (ICI) in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.
- The Financial Inclusion Index was launched by Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Arun Jaitley, in New Delhi to measure the financial services for use of internal policy making.
- For tackling toxicity in the air by sucking in particulate matter and release fresh air, the air pollution control device Wind Augmentation Purifying Unit inaugurated by Union Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences and Environment Dr. Harsh Vardhan.
- To mark the second anniversary of the surgical strikes carried out by the Indian Army across the LoC, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Parakram Parv exhibition at the military station in Jodhpur.
- 'Incredible India Mobile App' and the "Incredible India Tourist Facilitators Certification" programme was launched by Union Minister for Tourism (IC), Mr. K.J. Alphons.
- To utilize benefits of new technology, town planning, capacity management, challenges before socio-economic development and development of networking in the Smart City sector, Smart City Expo India-2018 inaugurated by Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, in Jaipur.
- The Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention, inaugurated by President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind in New Delhi.

Business

- Infosys Acquires Finnish Company 'Fluido' For Rs 545 Crore.
- Time Magazine Acquired by Salesforce Founders for \$190 Million

Defence

- INS Sahyadri entered the Port of Darwin, Australia to participate in Exercise KAKADU 2018, hosted by the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and supported by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).
- Aero India will be held in Bengaluru, Karnataka for the aerospace and defence industries with public air shows.
- Indo-Kazakhstan Joint Army Exercise 'KAZIND' begins in Otar region, Kazakhstan, to build and promote bilateral Army to Army relations and exchange skills and experiences between Kazakhstan Army and the Indian Army.
- Ukraine Conducts Joint Military Exercises with NATO Nations to practice countering armed aggression in conditions of the hybrid war.
- Indigenously developed weapon system Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM), was successfully flight tested from the Ahmednagar range, Maharashtra
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested the indigenously developed surface-to-surface tactical missile 'Prahar', from Odisha.
- Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman gave approval for the procurement of equipment for the Defence Forces valued at over Rs 9,100 crores.
- India's first 'smart fence' pilot project was inaugurated by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh in Ploura, Jammu.
- 2nd edition of Nepal-China joint military exercise (JME) named Mt Everest Friendship Exercise-2018 (Sagarmatha Friendship-2018) commenced in China's southwestern Sichuan province.
- Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM), was successfully flight tested from the Ahmednagar range, Maharashtra.

Sports News

- India won gold in the women's 4X400 metre event in Asian Games 2018.
- India's Jinson Johnson won gold medal in the men's 1500m event in the Asian Games 2018 held in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- With an effort of 16.77m, Arpinder Singh ended India's 48-year long wait for a gold in triple jump at the Asian Games.
- Swapna Barman becoming the first Indian heptathlete to win an Asian Games gold in Indonesia.
- Sebastian Vettel won the Belgian Grand Prix 2018 at Spa-Francorchamps Track in Belgium.
- Indian Triple jumper Arpinder Singh wins bronze medal in IAAF Continental Cup at Ostrava in the Czech Republic.
- Ankur Mittal won the men's double trap gold medal in the ISSF World Championship, in Changwon, South Korea.
- Indian shooter Hriday Hazarika won gold medal in the 10 m air rifle junior men's event of the ISSF World Championships in South Korea.
- India's Saurabh Chaudhary won the 10 metres Air Pistol Junior gold at the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) Shooting World Championship in Changwon, South Korea.
- England cricketer Alastair Cook announced his retirement from International cricket.
- Japanese swimmer Ikee Rikako has been named as the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the 18th edition of the Asian Games.
- Novak Djokovic of Serbia won the Men's singles US Open Tennis final.
- India Blue has won 2017-18 Duleep Trophy (cricket tournament) by defeating the defending champion India Red.

- Indian boxers Simranjit Kaur (64kg), Monika (48kg) and Bhagyabati Kachari (81kg) claimed gold medals at the Ahmet Comert Tournament in Istanbul, Turkey.
- Maldives have lifted the 2018 South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Cup.
- Indian five-time world boxing champion M C Mary Kom clinched her third gold medal of the year in 48 kg category, in Gliwice, Poland.
- Udhayveer Singh won Gold Medal in Junior Men's 25 metre pistol event in the World Shooting Championships in South Korea.
- India to Host the Women's Boxing World Championships in New Delhi.
- Hangzhou, China will host the 4th edition of Asian Para Games in 2022.
- Lewis Hamilton won the Singapore Grand Prix, in Singapore.
- Yuvraj Wadhvani has won the 25th Asian junior individual squash championship title.
- 8th Asian Yoga Sports Championship has begun in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala organised by Asian Yoga Federation.
- Croatia's Luka Modric Won FIFA's Best Player of the Year Award.

