

Monthly One-Liner GK Digest: August 2018

Banking and Financial Awareness:

- NHAH Signs MoU with SBI of Rs 25000 Crore Long Term Unsecured Loan for 10 years with 3 years of moratorium on repayments.
- India's GDP Growth to Rise to 7.5% This Fiscal by Morgan Stanley.
- RBI Hikes Repo Rate by 25 Bps to 6.5%.
- Mauritius's SBM (State Bank of Mauritius) gets RBI approval for subsidiary.
- NABARD Sanctions Rs772 Crore for Water Projects in Haryana.
- HDFC Life inks pact with Vijaya Bank to sell insurance products, aimed at serving the semi urban rural regions where the insurance products don't have a reach.
- Axis Bank Introduced Iris Authentication for Aadhaar-Based Transactions through its micro ATM tablets.
- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance and Vijaya Bank Entered into Bancassurance Deal
- Exim Bank and BRICS Development Banks signed a MoU in distributed ledger/blockchain technology to undertake "collaborative research".
- PayPal & HDFC Bank partner to offer seamless payment experiences to card holders
- In line with Budget estimate, RBI to pay Rs 50,000 cr dividend to govt. for FY18.
- Bharti Axa Ties Up with Airtel Payments Bank to Offer the 'Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana' (PMJJBY).
- According to SEBI, Investment in P-notes hits 9-year low at Rs 80,341 crore since 2009.
- UPI 2.0 unveiled by RBI Governor Urjit Patel with enhanced features developed by NPCI.
- SBI ranked as India's most patriotic brand, Survey by UK based YouGov.
- World Bank launched world's 1st Block chain Bond 'bond-i' which is Block Chain Operated New Debt Instrument.
- India Banking Conclave 2018, focused on reforming the banking sector, organized by Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), was held in New Delhi.
- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Launches Overdraft Facility for MSEs.

Appointments

- Surendra Rosha appointed as HSBC India CEO.
- Renu Satti Quits as Paytm Payments Bank CEO, will now head Paytm's new retail initiative.
- Anurag Sachan appointed MD of Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. (DFCCIL).
- Ivan Duque was sworn in as the newly elected President of Colombia.

- Emmerson Mnangagwa Wins Zimbabwe's 1st Post-Mugabe Election.
- Justice Rajendra Menon was sworn in as the new Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court.
- Chile's Michelle Bachelet will be the next UN Human Rights Chief.
- Harivansh Narayan Singh was elected the Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman.
- Nikhil Nanda Appointed as Chairman and MD of Escorts.
- Ajay Data, 1st Indian to Become Member in Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).
- Imran Khan, the chairman of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Becomes the 22nd Prime Minister of Pakistan.
- Ibrahim Boubacar Keita Re-Elected as Mali President
- K S Srinivas Appointed as Chairman of Marine Products Export Development Authority.
- Former RBI Deputy Governor SS Mundra appointed Independent Director of Indiabulls Housing Finance.
- Madhya Pradesh Governor, Anandiben Patel takes oath as Governor of Chhattisgarh.
- D Bala Venkatesh Varma has been appointed as the Ambassador to Russia.
- Treasurer Scott Morrison has been elected the new Prime Minister of Australia.
- G. Satheesh Reddy Appointed as New DRDO Chairman.
- U K Varma Appointed ASSOCHAM Secretary General.
- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has appointed Justice S J Vazifdar as Chairman of Panel to Decide Vedanta's Plea.
- Arun Jaitley Resumes Charge as Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister.
- SS Mundra Appointed Independent Director of Indiabulls Housing Finance.

Obituary

- Veteran Bengali Writer Ramapada Chowdhury Passes Away.
- Former FTII director John Sankaramangalam passes away.
- Nobel Prize-winning British Author V S Naipaul Passes Away.
- Australian Professional Golfer Jarrod Lyle Passes Away.
- Congress leader Rajinder Kumar Dhawan passes away.
- Former The Hindu BusinessLine journalist, Mony K. Mathew, passes away.
- Former Tamilnadu CM and leader of DMK Mr.M Karunanidhi Passed away.
- Former Indian Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, passed away.
- Chhattisgarh Governor Balramji Dass Tandon, passed away
- Former member of Lok Sabha, Chennupati Vidya passed away.
- Former UN secretary general Kofi Annan, passed away.
- US singer Aretha Franklin passed away.

- Former Indian cricket captain Ajit Wadekar, passed away.
- Asian Games gold medallist Hakam Singh passes away.
- US Senator John McCain Passes Away.
- Veteran Journalist Kuldip Nayar Passes Away.
- Israeli Journalist and Peace Activist Uri Avnery Passes Away.

Honors, Awards and Ranks

- Mathematician Akshay Venkatesh Wins Prestigious Fields Medal, known as the Nobel prize for math.
- Mohun Bagan 'Ratna', the highest honour of Mohun Bagan club was awarded to former India international Pradip Chowdhury.
- The INFRA Icon Award in the 'Global Energy' category - Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).
- India has ranked 96th to break into the top 100 of the United Nation's E-Government Development Index (EGDI) 2018.
- Oscar-winning director Ang Lee to Be Honoured by Directors Guild of America (DGA).
- Smitha V. Crishna Tops List of India's Wealthiest Women.
- EIU Releases Global Liveability Index 2018: Vienna Tops, Delhi Stands 112th.
- According to Forbes, Actress Scarlett Johansson has emerged as the world's highest paid female actress.
- Global cultural organisation Asia Society honoured PepsiCo's CEO Indra Nooyi with the Game Changer of the Year award.
- General Dalbir Singh Suhag Awarded US 'Legion of Merit' 2018.
- According to "List of Highest Paid Female Athletes 2018" by Forbes, Serena Williams was the highest paid female athlete in 2018.

MOU's, Agreement and Summits

- Health Ministry Signs MoU with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to provide information and eligibility validation services to beneficiaries, especially in remote areas.
- India and Germany signed an agreement on financial and technical cooperation.
- Invest India and UAE Ministry Sign MoU for Technological Cooperation which will generate an estimated USD 20 billion.
- Unified Commanders' Conference 2018 starts in New Delhi.
- To foster greater collaboration and knowledge-sharing among the think tanks, 1st Nepal-India Think Tank Summit Begins in Kathmandu.
- 2-Day Indo-US Military Cooperation Meeting Begins in New Delhi.

- Senior Official's special meeting of the Bay of Bengal Initiatives for Multi-Sectoral, Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) was held in Kathmandu. theme - theme "Towards a peaceful, Prosperous and Sustainable Bay of Bengal Region".
- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Peace Mission 2018 To Be Conducted in Russia.
- To promote Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs) forest produced for livelihood development of tribal people, Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) & National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), signed an MoU.
- The 'One District One Product' Summit inaugurated by The President of India in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- The 3rd India-Nepal Coordination meeting was started in New Delhi.
- 11th World Hindi Conference started in Port Louis, Mauritius.
- 24th World Congress of Philosophy (WCP) was held in Beijing, China, organized by the International Federation of Philosophical Societies, and Peking University.
- To realize cooperation and collaboration in broadcasting and content sharing, Prasar Bharati and Mizzima Media Group of Myanmar signed an MoU.
- To boost bilateral trade between India and Singapore, signed the Second Protocol amending the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement in New Delhi.
- 8th meeting of India-Kenya Joint Trade Committee was held in Nairobi, Kenya.

Important Dates

- World Day Against Trafficking in Persons: 30 July
- National Handloom Day: 7 August.
- World Biofuel Day: 10 August.
- International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples: 9 August. theme was 'Indigenous peoples' migration and movement'.
- August 19 - World Humanitarian Day 2018, theme is: #NotATarget.
- August 19 - World photography day.

Important News – World

- World's First Intertidal Art Gallery Opened in Maldives.
- Israel has opened a Visa Application Centre in Kolkata for West Bengal and the north-eastern states' tourists.
- Japan has overtaken China as the world's number two stock market, as per Bloomberg report.
- Nepal-India Literature Festival 2018 Begins for strengthening Indo-Nepal ties in Birgunj inaugurated by Chief Minister of Province 2 Mohammad Lalbabu Raut.

- Iran unveiled its first domestic fighter jet named 'KOWSAR' which is a fourth-generation fighter shown at the National Defence Industry exhibition in Tehran.
- 'Panini Language Laboratory' inaugurated by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, at Mahatma Gandhi Institute (MGI) at Port Louis in Mauritius.

Important News- India

- AIBD India has been elected as the President of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) for two years.
- To create awareness about Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu launched logo and tagline for Geographical Indications (GI)
- GI tag: Invaluable Treasures of Incredible India
- Government Approves 122 New Research Projects Under 'IMPRINT-2' Scheme to advance research in energy, security and healthcare domains in the high education institutions.
- Committee Formed to Address Issues of Stressed Thermal Power Projects headed by Cabinet Secretary, Pradeep Kumar Sinha.
- 2nd Conference of Young Superintendent of Police held in New Delhi, Theme: "Predictive Policing and Contemporary Challenges for Indian Police Forces".
- Union Government Provides Rs 66,000 crore green funds to increase the country's forest cover.
- For monitoring the rejuvenation project of Ganga, National Green Tribunal constituted a committee headed by former Allahabad High Court judge.
- Under the Impacting Research Innovation and Technology 'IMPRINT-2' scheme, Government has approved 122 new research projects of 112 crore rupees.
- NITI Aayog Identified 117 Districts as Aspirational Districts for ashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) Scheme.
- To Spread Awareness About Indian Railways Heritage, Ministry of Railways Launches Digital Screens.
- PM Modi Announces Launch of World's Largest Healthcare Insurance On Independence Day to provide country's poor access to quality and affordable healthcare.
- To maintain fund liquidity for the ongoing construction of 14 road packages under Postal Highway Project, Government has released 470 million Nepali rupees for Terai roads project in Nepal.
- India's 1st Genetic Bank where the genetic material will be stored for posterity Inaugurated in Hyderabad.
- For promoting Pharmacovigilance of AYUSH Drugs, New Central Sector scheme released by AYUSH ministry.
- India's first biofuel-powered flight landed in Delhi, developed by Indian Institute of Petroleum, covering the distance between Dehradun & Delhi.
- India's largest business incubator the Bhamashah Techno Hub launched for strengthening the start-up ecosystem in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

- To showcase Buddhist Heritage in India and boost tourism to the Buddhist sites, the International Buddhist Conclave was inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind in New Delhi. theme: - 'Buddha Path – The Living Heritage'.
- The Centre unveiled The Draft International Air Connectivity (IAC) scheme, for extending the affordable air travel programme UDAN to international circuits.
- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) constituted B Sesikeran Committee to Review Food Labelling Standards.

Business, Science and Technology

- Apple Becomes 1st US-Based Company with Market Value of \$1 Trillion.
- Reliance Beats TCS to Become India's Most Valued Company.
- PayU India and Reliance Money entered strategic partnership to offer instant app-based personal loans, via LazyPay.
- PhonePe and Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) entered into a partnership to facilitate convenient, fast and secure payments.
- Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) became the first Indian company to cross Rs 8 trillion market capitalization.
- Digital payments firm Paytm has partnered with Alibaba to launch AI-based cloud computing platform 'Paytm AI Cloud'.

Important News- States

- Chhattisgarh CM Launch Mobile Distribution Scheme 'Mobile Tihar' under Sanchar Kranti Yojna.
- Rs.215 crore project of Meghalaya Milk Mission launched in Shillong to achieve Centre's goal of doubling farmer's income by 2022 through promotion of milk business.
- World's first-ever thermal battery plant was unveiled in Andhra Pradesh Manufactured by the Bharat Energy Storage Technology Private Limited (BEST).

Sports News

- World Junior Squash Championships 2018 was held in Chennai, India.
- British racing driver Lewis Hamilton Wins 6th Hungarian Formula 1 Grand Prix.
- Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra won a gold medal in the Savo Games in Lapinlahti, Finland.
- Dustin Johnson won the 2018 RBC Canadian Open in Canada.
- Ace Indian shuttler Sourabh Verma lifted the Russian Open Badminton trophy at Vladivostok.
- Germany's Mario Gomez Retires from International Football.
- Indian Golfer Gaganjeet Bhullar wins his maiden European Tour title at the Fiji International.

- Netherlands Wins Women's Hockey World Cup 2018 for a record eighth time.
- India Women Win first gold-medal Blitz Gold in Asian Nations Cup Chess Tourney.
- India defeated Bangladesh in the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-15 Women's Championship in Thimpu, Bhutan.
- Asian Games 2018 Begin in Indonesia.
- Neeraj Chopra became the first-ever Indian javelin thrower to win a gold medal at the Asian Games.
- Japan Wins 1st Ever Title at FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup France 2018.
- Indian women's team fast bowler Jhulan Goswami announced her retirement from T20 Cricket Internationals.
- Indian rowers Sawarn Singh, Dattu Bhokanal, Om Prakash and Sukhmeet Singh won the men's Quadruple Sculls to win India's fifth gold medal at the Asian Games 2018.
- First ever Indian female shooter Rahi Sarnobat won the women's 25m Pistol event at Asian Games 2018 in Indonesia.

Defence

- 'Maitree 2018': Indo-Thailand Joint Exercise Begins in Thailand.
- To build an ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship in defence sector, Defence Minister launched the Defence India Start-up Challenge in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Peace Mission 2018, Exercise started at Chebarkul, Russia.
- India's aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya will be Upgrade with a marine hydraulic system to boost the air operations of the ship from Russia.