

# Monthly One-Liner GK Digest: November 2018

## Banking and Financial Awareness:

- Kirloskar group received licence from the Reserve Bank to launch a non-banking finance company (NBFC), Kirloskar Capital.
- for establishing a card acceptance and digital payment platform, State Bank of India (SBI) and payments solution provider Hitachi Payment Services India has entered into an agreement to form a joint venture.
- To take the load off the increasing number of complaints currently being handled by the banking ombudsman, Reserve Bank of India is likely to establish an ombudsman for digital payments by March 2019.
- To capture all the details of borrowers, including wilful defaulters and also the pending legal suits in order to check financial delinquencies, The Reserve Bank of India has set up a digital Public Credit Registry (PCR).
- IndusInd Bank has launched the IndusInd Bank Nexxt Credit Card, nation's first interactive credit card with buttons.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide US \$13 million loan to Energy Efficiency Services (EESL) to promote efficient energy usage in India.
- Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) announced a new rule for re-classification of a promoter as a public investor.
- For retail investors to buy government securities, National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) has launched a mobile application and web-based platform named "NSE goBID".
- An alternative asset manager and a wholly owned subsidiary of SBI Capital Markets, SBICAP Ventures (SVL), has launched two funds for the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and affordable housing sectors.
- To examine issues related to the surplus capital of Rs 9.69 lakh crore with the central bank, RBI board decided to set up a high-powered committee for restructuring stressed assets in the MSME sector.
- For resolving large bad loans, the chairman of a bankers' panel, Sunil Mehta, had announced that an asset management company (AMC) has been formed and will be called as Sashakt India Asset Management.
- From November 15 to February 28, Karnataka Bank has launched a special campaign for opening current account and savings accounts (CASA).

## Appointments

- HDFC Bank had announced that the RBI had approved the re-appointment of Aditya Puri as MD and CEO of the bank for another two years.

- Jair Bolsonaro has won Brazil's presidential election.
- Gafur Rakhimov, Uzbekistan's businessman, was elected president of the International Boxing Association (AIBA).
- Asian Games gold-medalist sprinter Hima Das has been appointed as India's first ever Youth Ambassador by The United Nations Children's Fund-India (UNICEF).
- To fight for child rights, singer Nahid Afrin of Assam has been appointed as the first 'Youth Advocate' of the northeastern region by the UNICEF.
- Facebook Inc.-owned messaging service WhatsApp has appointed Abhijit Bose as head of WhatsApp India.

## Honour, Awards and Ranks

- Indian Air Force has organised a two-day seminar on 'Emerging Trends in Aviation Engineering and Logistics' (AVIAMAT-2018) at Air Force Auditorium, Subroto Park, New Delhi.
- Harvard University Honoured Malala Yousafzai by Gleitsman Award .
- Miss Grand International 2018 title 6th edition won by Miss Paraguay Clara Sosa as the beauty pageant in Yangon, Myanmar.
- Simona Halep placed her name as first recipient of the Chris Evert Women's Tennis Association (WTA) World No.1 Trophy by winning the match.
- India jumped 23 positions in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index 2019, now ranked 77 out of 190 countries in 2018.
- Indian mountaineer, Arunima Sinha, has been awarded an honorary doctorate by a prestigious UK university for her inspirational achievements.
- French scholar Jawahar Lal Sarin was presented with France's highest civilian honour Chevalier de la Lgion d'Honneur, for his outstanding contribution to enhancing Indo-French cultural cooperation and promoting French language.
- India has overtaken US to become second largest smartphone market in the July-September 2018 quarter, According to Canalys.
- N Ram, journalist and Chairman of the Hindu Publishing Group has been selected under prestigious award category of Raja Ram Mohan Roy award.
- 8th Forbes India Leadership Awards (FILA), which has had 9 categories to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of CEOs, entrepreneurs and business leaders of diverse backgrounds, was released in Mumbai.
- For excellent work done by the WCCB in combating transboundary environmental crime, United Nation Environment has awarded Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India with Asia Environment Enforcement Awards, 2018.
- Chairman of Wipro Azim Premji, has won Forbes India Leadership Awards 2018.
- Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development has been won by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE).

- Golfer Shubhankar Sharma became the first Indian to win the tour's 'Sir Henry Cotton Rookie of the Year' award.
- India's great sarod master, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, was presented the 'Sumitra Charat Ram Award for Lifetime Achievement' at the Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi.

## Obituaries

- Former Delhi chief minister Madan Lal Khurana passed away.
- Playwright, poet and author NtozakeShange passed away.
- Padma Shri Professor QaziAbdussattar, a noted Urdu writer passed away.

## Important Dates

- National Unity Day - 31st October.
- The Vigilance Awareness Week - from 29th October to 3 November, theme 'Eradicate Corruption – Build A New India'.
- National Cancer Awareness Day – 7th November
- National Ayurveda Day – 5th November
  - theme - "Ayurveda for Public health".
- World Tsunami Awareness Day: November 5
- International Day for Tolerance - 16 November
- World Diabetes Day - 14 November
- Public Service Broadcasting Day - November 12
- World Pneumonia Day - November 12

## MOU's, Agreement and Summits

- First WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health took place at WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2-day seminar on 'Emerging Trends in Aviation Engineering and Logistics' (AVIAMAT-2018) organised by Indian Air Force at Air Force Auditorium, Subroto Park, New Delhi.
- To deepen bilateral strategic cooperation on IP policy, first ever India-US Dialogue on Intellectual Property has been launched in Delhi
- Netherlands has been added as the new Partner Country 25th DST – CII Technology Summit to be organized in 2019.
- PM Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe attended the 13th Annual Summit between India and Japan in Tokyo .

- To enhance agricultural productivity, profitability, and climate resilience of poor and marginalized farmers in Andhra Pradesh, The Central and Andhra Pradesh governments and the World Bank have signed the loan agreement for a \$172.20 million project.
- India and South Korea signed an MoU on cooperation in sports in New Delhi, to establish a framework to facilitate and promote cooperation between the two countries on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit.
  - India and Malawi have signed 3 MoUs on
    - Extradition Treaty,
    - cooperation in the field of Atomic Energy for peaceful purposes
- VISA Waiver for Diplomatic and Official Passports.
- For strengthening cooperation in the field of Tourism, The Ministry of Tourism signed an MoU with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Government for the Republic of Korea in New Delhi.
- Loan Agreements Signed between India and ADB are:
  - A \$300 million Loan Agreement to support lending by India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL).
  - A \$169 million loan to develop climate-resilient water supply, sewerage, and drainage infrastructure in at least 10 cities in the State of Tamil Nadu.
  - for increased supply of hydropower, A \$105 million loan to continue financing the transmission system upgrades in Himachal Pradesh
- Department of Biotechnology and Cancer Research UK (CRUK) signed an MOU for the India-UK Cancer Research Initiative has been signed in New Delhi.
- Two-day summit to mark the World Tolerance Day was inaugurated in Dubai, the UAE, theme - 'Prospering from Pluralism: Embracing Diversity through Innovation and Collaboration'.
- 6th Indian Social Work Congress was held in New Delhi, theme - "Human Development and Social Inclusion: Imperatives for Social Work Education and Practice".
- To explore concrete means and pathways to address climate threat that comes from the growing demand from room air conditioners, first Global Cooling Innovation Summit was held in New Delhi.
- To encourage youth to contribute in public debates and participate in civic engagement for the 2019 general elections, Twitter India has launched #PowerOf18 campaign.
- 12th World Congress on Mountain Medicine started in Kathmandu, Nepal, theme - "Mountain Medicine in the Heart of the Himalayas".
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit was held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinean capital.
- For energising the start-up ecosystem in East and Northeast India, IIM Calcutta Innovation Park and Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) has signed an MoU.
- To offer the fans a great viewing experience of the upcoming semi-finals and final of the ICC Women's World T20 which will held in West Indies, International Cricket Council (ICC) announced its partnership with Google.

- To develop a roadmap for modernization of its air traffic services, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has inked an agreement with the US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)
- To open a state-of-the-art innovation center, Kerala state government had signed an MoU with Airbus BizLab.
- To provide reliable, quality, and affordable 24x7 electricity to the citizens of Jharkhand, Government of India, the Government of Jharkhand and the World Bank signed a \$310 million Loan Agreement for Jharkhand Power System Improvement Project.
- To enhance the support of developing nations in effectively implementing Paris Agreement to combat climate change, 27th BASIC Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change held in New Delhi.

## Important News – World

- To support sustainable marine and fisheries projects, Seychelles launched the world's first Sovereign Blue Bond.
- Istanbul has officially opened the world's largest airport terminal "under one roof" with a capacity to serve 90 million passengers .
- To eliminate hunger globally by 2030, United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group have formed a strategic partnership.
- After nine years, United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has unanimously agreed to lift sanctions against Eritrea.
- To protect its coral reefs, Palau has become the first country to ban reef toxic sunscreen by 2020.
- 5-Day long India- Taiwan SME Development Forum was held at Taipei, Taiwan, Indian Delegation was led by Secretary MSME Dr. Arun Kumar Panda.
- Two years after withdrawing from the 53-nation grouping, Maldives cabinet has approved to re-join the Commonwealth.

## Important News- India

- Railway Board Chairman Ashwani Lohani unveiled India's first engine-less train, "Train 18", developed by the Integral Coach Factory (ICF).
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Sardar Valla bhai Patel's memorial, called the Statue of Unity on the leader's 143rd birth anniversary in Gujarat's Narmada district.
- Cochin Shipyard in Kerala has become the India's largest Dry Dock .
- Assam has begun the 5th National Summit on Good and Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems at Kaziranga .
- 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.
- No Bharat Stage-IV vehicle shall be sold across the country with effect from April 1, 2020 by Supreme court latest amendment.

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- To strengthen educational and cultural cooperation, and to support the knowledge ambitions and economic growth of the state, Arunachal Pradesh signed an MoU with the British Council.
- Four MoUs have been signed between Israeli institutions and Punjab government to address issues of farmers and depleting groundwater level in the state.
- India and Bangladesh jointly signed agreements for enhancing inland and coastal waterways connectivity between the two countries for trade and cruise movements.
- According to a report by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), Unemployment rate in India rose to 6.9% in October, the highest in two years.
- 'Mo Bus' services launched by Odisha government in the Bhubaneswar ahead of the Men's Hockey World Cup.
- India has been elected as a member of the International Telecommunications Union-ITU Council for another four-year term.
- Union Cabinet has approved setting up of a Central Tribal University in Relli village of Vizianagaram District of Andhra Pradesh.
- United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) has issued special stamps with Diyas lamps (special event sheet) to commemorate Indian Hindu festival of Diwali.
- To encourage use of solar energy in irrigation by farmers, Odisha Government has launched Saura Jalnidhi scheme.
- To enable seamless booking of unreserved tickets including season tickets, Union Ministry of Railways has launched Unreserved Mobile Ticketing facility (UTS on Mobile).
- To provide insurance coverage to dairy farmers, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan launched the 'Cow Samridhi Plus Scheme'.
- For attracting youth to cooperative business ventures, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, launched the 'Yuva Sahakar-Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme' of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- For the Central and State statisticians to exchange views, 26th edition of Central and State Statistical Organizations(COCSO) Conference was organized by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) at Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh. theme - "Quality Assurance in Official Statistics".
- For higher education faculty, Union Ministry of Human Resource Development launched two new initiatives viz. Leadership for Academicians Programme (LEAP) and Annual Refresher Programme In Teaching (ARPIT).
- On the occasion of 75th anniversary of hoisting of the Tricolour for the first time by Netaji Subhash, Government has announced to release Rs 75 commemorative coin.
- The world's only autumn cherry blossom festival, India International Cherry Blossom festival is scheduled to be held in Shillong, Meghalaya.
- India's first Inland Multi-Modal Terminal Port on river Ganga was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi inaugurated at Ramnagar in Varanasi.

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- A portable solar-powered Cold Storage device with 500 kg capacity for storing vegetables and fruits, among other items has been developed by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras.
- Global IT Challenge for Youth with Disabilities (GITC) 2018 was held in New Delhi.
- To commemorate the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak, PM Narendra Modi have constituted National Implementation Committee (NIC) under the Chairmanship of Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh.
- PM Narendra Modi laid the Foundation Stones of City Gas Distribution (CGD) Projects in 65 Geographical Areas (GAs) in 129 Districts from Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The Embassy of India in Nepal and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organized an exhibition of construction equipment and technology-ConMac 2018 in Bhaktapur near Kathmandu, Nepal.
- To detect adulteration in milk, Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad have developed a smartphone-based sensor.
- To reduce sewer deaths and put an end to the unsafe practice of manual scavenging, Sulabh International has introduced India's first sewer cleaning machine.
- India's first specialized hospital for Elephants was formally opened in Churmura village in Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh.

## Defence News

- India and Japan began their first-ever joint military exercise 'Dharma Guardian- 2018' at a jungle warfare school in Mizoram's Vairengte with a focus on strengthening counter-terror cooperation.
- India has signed a \$950 million contract with Russia for two upgraded Krivak III-class stealth frigates.
- 25th edition of SIMBEX, Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise started off Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.
- India's first nuclear ballistic missile submarine, INS Arihant, has completed its first "deterrence patrol".
- To increase interoperability between Indian and Russian Armies a joint military exercise between Indian and Russia INDRA 2018 was conducted at Babina Field Firing Ranges, Babina Military Station Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh.
- USD 500 million deal signed between India and Russia for construction of two missile frigates in Goa for the Indian Navy.
- 12-day long joint military exercise 'Vajra Prahar' between India and the United States commenced in Jaipur.
- India and Russia 'EXERCISE INDRA' conducted at Babina Military Station in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh.

## Sports News

- MC Mary Kom has been named as the brand ambassador of the 10th edition of the Women's World Championship in New Delhi.
- Qatar will host the 23rd edition of the World Corporate Games 2019.

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- Tata Steel was announced as an official partner of the men's hockey World Cup 2018.
- Roger Federer won his 99th career title by winning the Basel Open for the ninth time in his career.
- 19-time world champion Pankaj Advani has won the second leg of the Asian Snooker Tour in Jinan, China.
- Ayhika Mukherjee, an Indian table tennis player has won a silver medal in the under-21 women's singles category of the ITTF Challenge Belgium Open.
- Indian golfer Khalin Joshi clinched the Panasonic Open India title at the Delhi Golf Club, with this win, he became the seventh Indian to win the Panasonic Open India title.
- India and Pakistan were declared joint winners of the Asian Champions Trophy in Men's Hockey at Muscat in Oman.
- Sourav Kothari Clinches 2018 WBL World Billiards Championship.
- In women's freestyle 57kg weight class, Pooja Dhanda won a bronze medal in Budapest, Hungary.
- Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia achieve the number one rank in the world in the 65kg category.
- Ekana International Stadium of Lucknow was renamed after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee as 'Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee International Cricket Stadium'.
- John Hastings, former Australia all-rounder has retired from all cricket.
- Joe Cole, Former England and Chelsea Football midfielder has retired.
- Tenth edition of Women's World Boxing Championships begins in Delhi.
- MC Mary won six boxing world titles by clinching the 48 kg gold at the 2018 AIBA Women's World Boxing Championships in New Delhi.
- Cricketer Wasim Jaffer became the first Indian batsman who touch the 11,000-run figure in the Ranji Trophy.
- Bangladesh won the 59th edition of the junior boys Subroto Cup International Football Tournament in New Delhi.