

WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS DECEMBER 2018: WEEK II

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Designation
Jon Ridgeon	CEO of International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)
Ajay Narayan Jha	Finance Secretary
TS Vijayan	Additional Director of Yes Bank
Krishnamurthy Subramanian	Chief Economic Advisor
Atul Sahai	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of New India Assurance (NIA)
Lalit Kumar	Government nominee on private sector ICICI Bank
Swapna Barman	Ambassador of YONO by State Bank of India
Shamila Batohi	First Female has been appointed as the National Director of South Africa's National Public Prosecutions
Pawan Singh	First Indian to be elected as one of the 7 members of the Judges Committee of the International Shooting Sports Federation
Preeti Saran	Elected to the Asia Pacific seat on the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)
Amitabh Chaudhry	Additional Director of Axis Bank

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Awardee	Award
Luka Modric	Ballon d'Or. (Men's Category)
Ada Hegerberg	Ballon d'Or. (Women's Category)
Dr. Rajanish Giri	Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award (IYBA)
Rattan Lal	Glinka World Soil Prize 2018
Malala Yousafzai	Gleitsman Award
Charlotte Prodger	Turner Award
Anand Kumar	Skoch Award for National Significance
Mr. Imran Hussain	"Hero to Animals" by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)
Vashkar Bhattacharjee and Private sector enterprise of China, Tencent	UNESCO/Emir Jaber al Ahmad al Jaber al Sabah Prize for Digital Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

IMPORTANT DAYS

Important Day	Date	Theme
International Civil Aviation Day	December 07	Working Together to Ensure No Country is Left Behind
Indian Armed Forces Flag Day	December 08	

Indian Navy's Submarine Day	December 08	
Indian Navy Day	December 04	
United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities or World Disability Day	December 03	Empowering persons with disabilities and ensuring inclusiveness and equality".

MILITARY EXERCISE

Indian Coast Guard	Regional Level Marine Oil Pollution Response Exercise titled 'Clean Sea – 2018'	Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands
India and Japan	SHINYUU Maitri-18	Air Force station in Agra in northern state of Uttar Pradesh

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

India Water Impact Summit 2018	New Delhi.
Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code of India – New Paradigm for Stressed Assets	Indian Consulate in New York.
India Water Impact Summit 2018	New Delhi.
175th Meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Companies (OPEC) Conference	Vienna, Austria.
UN Climate Summit	Katowice, Poland
India-ASEAN InnoTech Summit	India ASEAN InnoTech Summit: Accelerating towards innovative development

NATIONAL EVENTS

- Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis launched a unique initiative called- State of Maharashtra's Agribusiness and Rural Transformation or "SMART". This will be implemented in 10,000 villages with an objective to achieve sustainable farming within the next 3 years.
- Chief Minister of Nagaland, Shri Neiphiu Rio, inaugurated the first ever Swadesh Darshan Project in Nagaland named- "Development of Tribal Circuit: Peren-Kohima-Wokha Project".
- Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal launched a 3 day, 2 night free pilgrimage scheme 'Mukhyamantri Teerth Yatra Yojana' for 77, 000 senior citizens consisting of five religious circuits, for senior citizens named- the 'Mukhyamantri Teerth Yatra Yojana'.
- Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Government of Goa hosted the annual #startupindia Global Venture Capital Summit in Goa.
- The Central Government has approved Anti-Smuggling National Coordination Centre (SCord) under the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) to tackle Smuggling.
- Supreme court bench of Justices A.K. Sikri and S. Abdul Nazeer approved the draft of India's First Witness Protection Scheme 2018 to ensure security to the witness.
- Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister laid the Foundation stone of Pusa Kisan Haat in Indian Council of Agricultural Research's (ICAR) Agricultural Technology Information Centre (ATIC) in New Delhi.

- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh announced Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Council's approval to India's proposal to observe an International Year of Millets in 2023.
- Crown Prince of Dubai, Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, launched the Dubai Audio Library, the largest Arabic audio library in the world.
- According to the Global Status Report on Road Safety, India tops in road deaths with 1.51 lakh road deaths in 2016 and globally the toll of road deaths increased from 1.25 million to 1.35 in a span of three years.
- Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik launched the ambitious "Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)" at Teacher's Bhawan in Jammu.
- Maharashtra government issued a government resolution allowing citizens to inspect records in district-level offices and local bodies throughout Maharashtra under the Right To Information (RTI) for 2 hours every Monday.
- Nagaland government signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with e-Governance Academy of Estonia to provide advisory and technical knowledge for setting up of e-Governance Academy of Nagaland (e-GAN).
- A six-member committee headed by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar has been constituted by the government which will look at selling as many as 149 small and marginal oil and gas fields of state-owned ONGC and Oil India to private and foreign companies to boost domestic output.
- The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) which works under Ministry of Commerce and Industry has put the imports of gold dore in restricted category. It means that an importer now, needs a license to import this commodity.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarked on a 3-day visit to Buenos Aires, Argentina for the commencement of the 2-day 13th G20 Summit. The theme of the 2018 edition of the Summit was: "Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development"
- Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$85 million loan in New Delhi, under the Odisha Skill Development Project to promote skill development in Odisha.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- The Strategic Central American Nation, Panama became the first Latin American Country to join China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative after the visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping to Panama.
- India has signed an agreement with Iran to pay for crude oil it imports from the Persian Gulf nation in rupees.
- Australia surpassed Qatar to become the world's leading exporter of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) for the first time.
- Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) announced extension of credit facility of USD 500 million to Tanzania for water supply projects in the country.
- United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres launched a new framework named as UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact.
- Luxembourg became the first country to abolish all fares on public transport by 2019.
- SpaceX founded by Elon Musk, launched India's first privately built satellite ExseedSAT 1 along with 63 other satellite from 18 countries in the company's largest-ever "rideshare" mission on a twice-reused Falcon 9 rocket from the Vandenberg air force base in California, USA.
- Foreign Minister of Romania, H.E. Mr. Teodor Melescanu visited India.

SPORTS

- Pakistan's leg-spinner Yasir Shah became the fastest cricketer to take 200 Test wickets in just 33 Tests, breaking an 82-year-old record, beating Australian leg-spinner Clarrie Grimmett's record of 36 Tests set against South Africa in Johannesburg in 1936.
- The Hungarian capital Budapest was officially confirmed as the host city of the 2023 International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) World Championships.
- Ullas Narayan became the first Indian individual medal winner in an international ultra running event by winning bronze in the 2018 International Association of Ultra Running (IAU) 24 Hour Asia & Oceania Championships in Taipei, Taiwan
- Commonwealth Senior Fencing Championships, was held in Canberra, Australia.
- Italy won the Ninth edition of International Admiral's Cup Regatta 2018 with their consistent performance in all races held in Ettikulam Beach at Indian Naval Academy (INA), Ezhimala.

BANKING AND FINANCE

- HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company, India's leading private sector general insurance company and Federal Bank, announced tie-up for the distribution of HDFC ERGO's range of non-life insurance offerings to the customers of the Bank through its network branches.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued guidelines for enhancing the credit discipline of large borrowers by allowing a minimum of 40% of the working capital to be drawn. According to the guidelines, large borrowers having working capital of Rs. 150 crores and above can draw a minimum loan component of 40% of the capital.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has entered into an arrangement with the World Bank to put in place a single framework that will make co-financed projects more efficient.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

- Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi released a book authored by father-son duo Vinay Thakur and Amogh Thakur named "Architecture of Justice: A pictorial walk-through of the supreme court and High courts of India" in New Delhi.
- A book named "Modiraj Main Kisan, Double Aamad Ya Double afat" authored by Swaraj India President Yogendra Yadav launched by agricultural economist Ashok Gulati and the Punjab State Farmers' and Farm Workers' Commission Chairman Ajay Vir Jakhar in New Delhi.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs released a booklet in English language titled "A Handbook for Students on Cyber Safety" to create awareness among the Students and Adolescents about the cyber safety.
- Tuhin Satarkar, became the first Indian to climb three routes in the treacherous Sahayadri mountain range in 12 days