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Address : 499/601A, Panna Lal Rd, Colonelganj, George Town, Prayagraj, U.P.

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History of January 18

- ◆ **1930** : The great writer **Rabindranath Tagore** visited the **Sabarmati Ashram** of the Father of the Nation, **Mahatma Gandhi**.
- ◆ **1959** : **Meera Ben**, an aide of the Father of the Nation, **Mahatma Gandhi**, left India.
- ◆ **2009** : **Sourav Ganguly** was honored with a gold bat by the **Bengal Cricket Association**
- ◆ **2006** : The **Supreme Court** approved euthanasia in the **United States**.

Current Affairs Related to 18 January

- ◆ The **World Bank** said that **India's economic growth rate** will come down to **6.6 percent** in **2023-24**. Despite this, India will remain the fastest growing economy among the seven largest emerging markets and developing economies. Slowdown in the global economy and growing uncertainty can have an impact on India as well. The World Bank said in its latest estimate that the Indian economy will grow at a speed of **6.9 percent** in the current financial year.
- ◆ The **18th edition of the Global Risk Report** is based on the **Global Risk Perceptions Survey for 2022-23**. Apart from these risks, the report mentions that the weakening of human rights, net zero target, failure of non-food supply chains and debt crisis are other key risks. According to the report, **2025** will be dominated by social and environmental risks. Six of the top 10 risks will be environmental risks over the next decades.
- ◆ **Punjabi is set to become the newest language taught in public schools in Western Australia**. The Australian government has decided to include Punjabi language in schools. Australian Education Minister Sue Ellery said that students in Australia will be given the option of studying Punjabi, as a new curriculum will be prepared from pre-primary to 12th. The number of Punjabi speakers in Australia is continuously increasing.
- ◆ **Bio Energy Summit 2023** was organized in **New Delhi**. This was the **11th edition** of this conference. It aims to provide an opportunity to innovators and provide an alternative to clean and green energy solutions for the future.
- ◆ The book **Jadunama** written by **Arvind Mandloi** on veteran writer lyricist **Javed Akhtar** was released. Javed's wife **Shabana Azmi** and children **Zoya** and **Farhan Akhtar** were present at the book launch. Farhan's wife and actress **Shibani Dandekar** also attended the event. **Jadunama** is about a writer, poet, lyricist and political activist.
- ◆ The **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India** has notified comprehensive regulatory standards for **Basmati rice** for the first time. These standards will come into effect from **August 1** this year. Union Health Ministry said the objective of the standards is to establish fair practices in trade of basmati rice and protect consumer interest. As per these standards, basmati rice should have the natural aroma characteristics of basmati rice, and should also be free from artificial colours, polishing agents and artificial fragrances.
- ◆ For the first time, a woman fighter pilot of the **Indian Air Force** will be a part of the **Indian contingent** for an aerial exercise outside the country. Squadron Leader **Avani Chaturvedi**, a woman fighter pilot flying the **Su-30 MKI**, will be participating in an international wargame abroad. **Avani Chaturvedi**, a woman pilot of the Indian Air Force will also participate in the exercise and create history. **Avani Chaturvedi** will be the first Indian woman pilot to participate in any aerial exercise on foreign soil.
- ◆ The **DAC** has also approved **AON** for procurement of **VShorad missile system** under design and development by **Defense Research and Development Organisation**. The ministry said that in view of the recent developments along the northern borders, there is a need to focus on effective air defense weapon systems that can be rapidly deployed in difficult terrain and maritime zones. The procurement of **VShorad**, as a robust and rapidly deployable system, will strengthen the air defense capabilities, the ministry said.
- ◆ **FSSAI** notified comprehensive regulatory standards for **Basmati rice** for the first time. These basmati rice include brown basmati rice, milled basmati rice, parboiled brown basmati rice, and milled parboiled basmati rice.
- ◆ **India** generates **3.4 million tonnes** of plastic waste in a year.

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National & International Current Affairs

1. When will Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurate several projects worth 7000 crores during his visit to Telangana?

- (A) 18th January (B) 19th January
(C) 20th January (D) 21st January

(B) Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate several projects worth 7000 crore during his visit to Telangana on January 19. These especially include the launch of the 8th Vande Bharat train. During this time the train will have intermediate halts at Warangal, Khammam, Vijayawada and Rajahmundry. Apart from this, the Prime Minister will also dedicate IIT Hyderabad and lay the foundation stone of buildings and projects sanctioned at a total cost of 2597 crores.



2. Animal welfare fortnight is being celebrated by the Animal Husbandry Department in Rajasthan.

- (A) From 14th to 30th January
(B) From 16th to 24th January
(C) From 19th to 24th January
(D) From 26th to 5th February

(A) With the objective of realizing the concept of animal welfare along with human welfare, the Animal Husbandry Department will celebrate Animal Welfare Fortnight from 14 to 30 January 2023. Under this fortnight, various programs will be organized at the departmental level in the entire state with a view to inculcate love and kindness towards animals.



3. India's first solar plant for Tata Power Housing Society in which city?

- (A) Pune (B) Bhopal
(C) Mumbai (D) Ahmedabad

(C) Tata Power Renewable Energy has entered into an agreement with Vivaria condominiums in Mumbai to form the country's first housing society to operate a captive solar power plant for residential consumption. A 3,125 MW solar facility will be built by a subsidiary of Tata Power at Himayatnagar in Maharashtra. It will supply green power at 40% less than the current cost.



4. According to the World Bank's Global Economic Prospects report, what will be the expected economic growth rate of India in 2023-2024?

- (A) 5.5% (B) 6.6%
(C) 7.7% (D) 8.8%

(B) According to the World Bank's Global Economic Prospects report, India will be the fastest growing economy among the seven major emerging markets and developing countries. According to World Bank estimates, India's economic growth will slow down to 6.6% in the next financial year from 6.9% in the current year.



5. Who has recently launched indigenous camera drone?

- (A) Mahendra Singh Dhoni
(B) Neeraj Chopra
(C) Virat Kohli
(D) Rohit Sharma

(A) Mahendra Singh Dhoni, former captain of the Indian cricket team, has launched an indigenous camera drone. The name of the drone is Droni, which is a quadcopter consumer camera drone. It has been launched at the Global Drone Expo in Chennai. Garuda Aerospace has made this drone completely made in India.



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6. Which government has recently launched Sarsh initiative in all government schools?

- (A) Odisha (B) Telangana
(C) Tripura (D) Tamil Nadu

(C) The Tripura government gladly launched the initiative in all government schools. Now the government has happily started this special education program in all government and government aided schools. The initiative aims to encourage social and emotional learning. It aims to empower children to learn with joy. 204 schools in the state have already been trained for the Saharsh initiative.



7. Who counts tigers in India?

- (A) Indian Institute of Forest Management
(B) Wildlife Institute of India
(C) Wildlife Trust of India
(D) Forest Research Institute

(B) The report of the tiger census to be held every four years will be released this year. The latest All India Tiger Estimation was conducted in the year 2022. The National Tiger Conservation Authority conducts the tiger census in collaboration with state forest departments and the Wildlife Institute of India. The first tiger census was done in 2006 and thereafter in 2010, 2014 and 2018.



8. Exercise Veer Guardian 2023 is happening between India and which country?

- (A) America (B) Japan
(C) France (D) Singapore

(B) The first air exercise Veer Guardian 2023 is taking place between India and Japan. The Indian Air Force and the Japan Air Self Defense Force are conducting the first bilateral aerial exercise from 12 to 26 January 2023 at Hyakuri Air Base in Japan. This is the first time that a woman fighter pilot of the Indian Air Force is part of an Indian contingent for an aerial exercise in a foreign land.



9. In which state of India is the Imoinu Iratpa festival celebrated?

- (A) Sikkim (B) Goa
(C) Assam (D) Manipur

(D) Recently the Imoinu Iratpa festival is celebrated by the Meitei community in Manipur. Imoinu Iratpa festival is dedicated to Goddess Imoinu Ahangbi. In Meitei mythology, this goddess is associated with household, kitchen, wealth, peace and prosperity. This festival is celebrated on the 12th day of the Meitei lunar month of Watching.



10. Recently Henley Passport Index 2023 was released, what is the rank of India in this?

- (A) 80th (B) 81st
(C) 84th (D) 85th

(D) Japan's passport has been ranked first in the Henley Passport Index 2023 ranking. Japan has retained its top position for the fifth consecutive year. India's passport has got 85th place in this ranking. Singapore and South Korea are jointly second in this ranking. US passport is at the seventh place in this list.



Contact : 98390-65783