CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2020

Awards

The Indian environmentalist who has been awarded the 2020 Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement along with Gretchen C. Daily from USA (Award given by University of Southern California) – Pavan Sukhdev

The well-known social worker and founder of Rashtriya Seva Samiti who has been chosen for Muppavarapu National Award for Social Service instituted by the Swarna Bharat Trust – Gutta Muniratnam

The agricultural scientist who has been chosen for the Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu National Award for Excellence instituted by the Muppavarapu Foundation for his contribution to agriculture – MS Swaminathan

The 13-year old Indian girl who has won Global Child Prodigy Award in Dubai for her talent in being able to sing in 120 languages – Sucheta Satish

The editor-in-chief of Jagran who has been chosen to be honoured with the Lokmanya Tilak National Journalism Award by the Kesari-Maratha Trust – Sanjay Gupta

Defence

The operation launched by Indian Navy to undertake Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief mission in Madagascar post devastation caused by Cyclone Diane – Operation Vanilla

The Air Force station in Tamil Nadu which has been chosen for induction of Sukhoi 30MKI aircraft in 222 Squadron (Tigersharks) – Thanjavur

Places

The venue of the 3rd Global Potato Conclave held from 28 January to 31 January 2020 – Gandhinagar, Gujarat

The State which passed a resolution in its Legislative Assembly to abolish its Legislative Council – Andhra Pradesh

The venue of the 5th Science Film Festival of India held from 15 to 18 Jan 2020 – Panaji, Goa

The north-eastern state which has been declared a disturbed area under the AFSPA Act for a period of 6 more months – Nagaland

The place in Tamil Nadu which is the proposed site for India's second spaceport (launch site for satellites) – Thoothukodi
The venue of 107th Indian Science Congress held from 03 to 07 Jan with the theme Science and Technology – University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru

The 5 cities in which Young Scientists Laboratories of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) were inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi recently – Bengaluru, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Hyderabad

Sports

India's first female footballer to bag a professional contract from a foreign club (Rangers FC) – Bala Devi

The American professional basketball player (aged 41 years) who died in a helicopter crash in California on 26 January 2020 – Kobe Bryant

The Indian cricketer who has announced retirement from all forms of cricket after having played 29 tests, 120 ODIs and 24 T20Is – Irfan Pathan

Themes and Events

The theme of World Sustainable Development Summit 2020 organised in New Delhi from 29 to 31 January 2020 – Towards 2023: Making the Decade Count

The theme of National Voters Day observed on 25 January 2020 – Electoral Literacy for Stronger Democracy

The theme of International Day of Education observed on 24 January 2020 – Learning for people, planet, prosperity and peace

The theme of 28th edition of New Delhi World Book Fair 2020 inaugurated by the Union HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ – Gandhi: Writer’s Writer

Miscellaneous

The Hindi word which has been declared the Hindi Word of the year 2019 by Oxford University Press – Samvidhan

The ozone depleting chemical which has been successfully and completely been phased out by India – Hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC)-141b

The temperature which has been made default setting for airconditioners with effect from 01.01.2020 by the Central Govt in consultation with Bureau of Energy Efficiency – 24° Celsius

The year 2020 has been declared by World Health Organisation as the year of – Nurse and Midwife

The mobile app launched by the Reserve Bank of India to help visually challenged persons in identifying currency notes is named – MANI (Mobile Aided Note Identifier)
Republic Day Parade 2020

Chief Guest: Jair Bolsonaro, President of Brazil

Best Marching Contingent (Armed Forces): Indian Air Force

Best Marching Contingent (CAPFs): CISF

Best Tableau - States: 1. Assam; 2. Odisha and Uttar Pradesh

Best Tableau - Ministries and Departments: Jal Jeevan Mission and NDRF

Special Prize: Central Public Works Department for their tableau which based on the theme - Kashmir se Kanyakumari.

Corruption Perception Index

Released by: Transparency International

Rankings

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<th>Ranking</th>
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Note: Somalia is ranked at the bottom rank of 180

Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2020

Institution Category: Disaster Mitigation & Management Centre, Uttarakhand

Individual Category: Shri Kumar Munnan Singh (Founder member of NDMA)

77th Golden Globe Awards

Best Motion Picture (Drama): 1917

Best Motion Picture (Musical or Comedy): Once upon a time Hollywood

Best Performance in a Motion Picture – Drama

1. Actor: Joaquin Phoenix (Joker)

2. Actress: Renée Zellweger (Judy)
Best Performance in a Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy

1. Actor: **Taron Egerton** (Rocketman)

2. Actress: **Awkwafina** (The Farewell)

The film which received the most nominations (6) - **Marriage Story**

**Launch of GSAT-30**

Launch date: 17 Jan 20

Launched from: Kourou, French Guiana

Launch vehicle: Arian 5 VA-251

GSAT-30 has a lift-off mass of 3357 kg. It will replace INSAT-4A. The satellite will provide communication services to Indian mainland and islands through Ku-band and wide coverage covering Gulf countries, a large number of Asian countries and Australia through C-band”.

**EIU Democracy Index 2019**

Released by: **Economic Intelligence Unit**

Rankings

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<td>Pakistan</td>
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Note: India has slipped from its 2018 rank of 42

**National Startup Advisory Council**

The Central Government has notified the structure of the National Startup Advisory Council to advise the Government on measures needed to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation and startups in the country to drive sustainable economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities.

The National Startup Advisory Council will be chaired by Minister for Commerce & Industry.

The Council will consist of the non-official members, to be nominated by Central Government, from various categories like founders of successful startups, veterans who have grown and scaled companies in India, persons capable of representing interests of investors into startups, persons capable of
representing interests of incubators and accelerators and representatives of associations of stakeholders of startups and representatives of industry associations.

The term of the non-official members of the Startup Advisory Council will be for a period of two years.

The nominees of the concerned Ministries/Departments/Organisations, not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India, will be ex-officio members of the Council. Joint Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade will be the Convener of the Council.

Global Mobility Index 2020

Released by: World Economic Forum

The World Economic Forum’s Global Social Mobility Index provides a new, holistic assessment of 82 global economies according to their performance on five key dimensions of social mobility viz: 1. Health; 2. Education (access, quality and equity, lifelong learning); 3. Technology; 4. Work (opportunities, wages, conditions); 5. Protection and Institutions (social protection and inclusive institutions).

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Integrated Helpline number “139”

Indian Railways has integrated railway helplines into single number 139 for the passengers for quick grievance redressal and enquiry during their journey. It has discontinued all other helpline numbers

Menu of 139 Helpline (IVRS) is as under:

1. For security & medical assistance, passenger has to press 1, which connects immediately to a call center executive
2. For enquiry, passenger has to press 2 and in the sub menu, information regarding pnr status, arrival/departure of the train, accommodation, fare enquiry, ticket booking, system ticket cancellation, wake up alarm facility/destination alert, wheel chair booking, meal booking can be obtained.
3. For catering complaints, passenger has to press 3
4. For general complaints, passenger has to press 4
5. For vigilance related complaints, passenger has to press 5
6. For queries during accident, passenger has to press 6
7. For status of complaints, passenger has to press 9
8. For talking to call center executive, passenger has to press *

**BCCI Awards 2018-19**

Col CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award: Krishnamachari Srikkanth
BCCI Lifetime Achievement Award for Women: Anjum Chopra
BCCI Special Award: Dilip Doshi
Dilip Sardesai Award - Highest Run Getter in Test Cricket: Cheteshwar Pujara
Dilip Sardesai Award - Highest Wickets in Test Cricket: Jasprit Bumrah
Highest Run Getter in ODIs - Women: Smriti Mandhana
Highest Wickets in ODIs - Women: Jhulan Goswami
Polly Umrigar Award Best International Cricketer - Men: Jasprit Bumrah
Best International Cricketer - Women: Poonam Yadav
Best International Debut - Men: Mayank Agarwal
Best International Debut - Women: Shafali Verma

**Padma Awards 2020**

**Padma Vibhushan**

**Public Affairs**: 1. Shri George Fernandes (Posthumous); 2. Shri Arun Jaitley (Posthumous); 3. Smt Sushma Swaraj (Posthumous); 4. Sir Anerood Jugnauth GCSK (Mauritius)

**Sports**: Smt MC Mary Kom

**Art**: Shri Chhannulal Mishra

**Others-Spiritualism**: Shri Vishveshatheertha Swamiji Shri Pejara Adhokhaja Matha Udupi (Posthumous)

**Padma Bhushan**

**Social Work:** 1. Ms Krishnammal Jagannathan, 2. Shri Anil Prakash Joshi

**Trade and Industry:** 1. Shri Anand Mahindra, 2. Shri Venu Srinivasan

**Medicine:** Dr. Tsering Landol

**Art:** Shri Ajoy Chakravorty

**Literature & Education:** 1. Shri Manoj Das, 2. Prof Jagdish Sheth (USA)

**Sports:** Ms. PV Sindhu

**Others-Spiritualism:** Shri M Mumtaz Ali

**Others-Architecture:** Shri Balkrishna Doshi

**Padma Shri**


**Medicine:** 1. Dr. Yogi Aeron; 2. Dr. Padmavathy Bandopadhyay; 3. Dr. Sushovan Banerjee; 4. Dr. Digambar Behera; 5. Dr. Bangalore Gangadhar; 6. Dr. Leela Joshi; 7. Dr. Ravi Kannan R.; 8. Dr. Narindar Nath Khanna; 9. Dr. Arunoday Mondal; 10. Smt. (Dr.) Shanti Roy

**Others:** 1. Ms. Rahibai Soma Popere (Agriculture); 2. Shri Chintala Venkat Reddy (Agriculture); 3. Shri Radhamohanan & Ms. Sabarmatee (Duo) (Agriculture); 4. Ms. Trinity Saioo (Agriculture); 5. Shri Batakrushna Sahoo (Animal-Husbandry); 1. Shri Enamul Haque (Archaeology)

**Public Affairs:** 1. Shri Bob Blackman; 2. Shri Barry Gardiner

**Science and Engineering:** 1. Dr. Raman Gangakhedkar; 2. Shri Sujoy K. Guha; 3. Shri Sudhir Jain; 4. Shri Naveen Khanna; 5. Shri Kattungal Subramaniam Manilal


Abbreviations in News

MANI - Mobile Aided Note Identifier

Books in News

Asha and the Spirit Bird by Jasbindar Bilan (Winner of United Kingdom Costa Children's Award)

Mail your queries, complaints and suggestions to admin@leadthecompetition.in