

CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2019

Awards

The country which has announced launching of Gandhi Citizenship Education Prize to be given every year – **Portugal**

The Indian author who has been chosen for the 2019 DSC Prize for South Asian literature for his novel Half the Night is Gone – **Amitabha Bagchi**

The Indian actress who has been chosen for the 2020 Crystal Award for spreading awareness about mental health by the World Economic Forum – **Deepika Padukone**

The contestant from Jamaica who has been crowned Miss World at a beauty pageant in London (Indian contestant Suman Rao was the 2nd Runner-up) – **Tony-Ann Singh**

The environmental activist from Sweden who has been named Time Person of the Year 2019 – **Greta Thunberg**

The noted Hindi writer who has been chosen for the 33rd Moortidevi Award 2019 for his work Asti aur Bhavati – **Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari**

The South African contestant who has been crowned Miss Universe 2019 in a ceremony in Atlanta, USA – **Zozibini Tunzi**

The Indian actress who has been awarded the Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award by UNICEF – **Priyanka Chopra**

The Indian journalist and author who has been awarded the Shakti Bhatt First Book prize for his book Early Indians: The Story of our Ancestors and Where we came from – **Tony Joseph**

Defence

The two day pollution response exercise conducted by Indian Coast Guard off the coast of Vadinar in Gulf of Kutch was named – **Swachchh Samudra NW-2019**

The anti-hijacking exercise conducted jointly by the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard off the coast of Kochi was code named – **Apharan**

The joint, tri services exercise between India and Russia conducted from 10 to 19 December 2019 simultaneously at Babina (near Jhansi), Pune, Gwalior and Goa was named – **Exercise Indra**

The venue of the 14th edition of bilateral annual military exercise SURYA KIRAN-XIV between Indian and Nepal Army – **Salijhandi, Rupendehi (Nepal)**

The venue of the 8th edition of India-China joint training exercise 'HAND-IN-HAND 2019' with the theme counter terrorism under United Nations mandate scheduled conducted from 07 to 20 December 2019 – **Umroi, Meghalaya**

The Naval officer who has become the first woman pilot of the Indian Navy – **Sub Lt Shivangi**

The venue of joint military exercise of India and Sri Lanka, MITRA SHAKTI- 2019 which commenced on 01 December and concluded on 14 December – **Aundh Military Station, Pune**

Persons

The first Chief of Defence Staff, a four star rank created by the Union Cabinet recently – **General Bipin Rawat**

The US astronaut who has created a new record for the longest single space flight by a woman breaking the record of 288 days held by Peggy Whitson – **Christina Koch**

The activist from Pakistan who has been named as the most famous teenager in the world by the United Nations in its decade review report – **Malala Yousafzai**

The Indian contestant who has become the first from the country to be crowned Miss Teen International at a beauty pageant held in Jai Bagh Palace in Jaipur – **Ayushi Dholakia**

The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha leader who has been sworn-in as the 11th Chief Minister of Jharkhand – **Hemant Soren**

The veteran Hindi and Marathi film and theatre actor who passed away on 17 Dec 2019 – **Dr. Shriram Lagoo**

The present Vice Chief of Army Staff who has been chosen to be the next Chief of Army Staff from 31 Dec 2019 – **Lt Gen Manoj Mukund Naravane, PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM**

The American engineer well known for inventing the Universal Product Code (Bar Code) who passed away on 05 Dec 2019 – **George J. Laurer**

The German politician who has taken over as the first female President of European Commission – **Ursula Gertrud von der Leyen**

Places

The place in Uttar Pradesh where India's first university for the transgender community is being set up by the Akhil Bhartiya Kinnar Siksha Seva Trust – **Kushinagar**

The country which has become the first in the world to recognise Indian Pharmacopoeia (The IP specifies the standards of drugs manufactured and marketed in India in terms of their identity, purity and strength.) – **Afghanistan**

The State to which Inner Line Permit regime was extended by a Presidential order making it the 4th state after Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram where the regime is applicable – **Manipur**

The country to which India has gifted a Made in India patrol vessel named KAAMIYAAB – **Maldives**

The venue of UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) under the presidency of Chile, India was represented by Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar – **Madrid, Spain**

Sports

The tennis players who have been named International Tennis Federation's World Champions for 2019 – **Rafael Nadal and Ashleigh Barty**

The European nation whose football team has been named FIFA Team of the Year 2019 (for the second time in a row) – **Belgium**

The Indian cricketer who has become the first bowler from the country to claim 2 hat tricks in one-day internationals – **Kuldeep Yadav**

The English international cricketer who has been chosen as the BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2019 – **Ben Stokes**

The Australian tennis player who has won the WTA (Women's Tennis Association) Player of the Year 2019 – **Ashleigh Barty**

The Australian cricketer who has become the fastest to score 7000 runs in test cricket by reaching the milestone in 126 innings (breaking the record of Wally Hammond - 131 innings) – **Steve Smith**

The team which has won the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy 2019-20 (cricket) defeating Tamil Nadu in the finals – **Karnataka**

The country which has been banned by World Anti-Doping Agency for 4 years from all major sporting events – **Russia**

Railways

The railway route on which Him Darshan Express, comprising all new vistadome coaches has been unveiled by the Indian Railways – **Kalka to Shimla**

The railway station which has been conferred with the Eat Right Station certification with four stars rating by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) as a part of 'Eat Right India' movement launched last year – **Mumbai Central**

Miscellaneous

The eight west African countries, Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo have renamed their common currency CFA-Franc to – **Eco**

The World's 100 Most Powerful Women

Released by: **Forbes**

#	Name	Country
1.	Angela Merkel	Germany
2.	Christine Lagarde	France
3.	Nancy Pelosi	USA
34.	Nirmala Sitharaman	India
54.	Roshni Nadar Malhotra	India
65.	Kiran Mazumdar Shaw	India

13th South Asian Games 2019

Venue: Kathmandu and Pokhara (Nepal)

Held from 01 to 10 December 2019

Mascot: A pair of blackbucks

Participant countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka

Medals Tally

#	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.	India	173	93	45	311
2.	Nepal	51	60	95	206
3.	Sri Lanka	41	83	128	252
4.	Pakistan	32	41	59	132

Bhartiya POSHAN Anthem

Title: Poshanam

Launched by: Vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu

Written by: Prasoon Joshi

Composed and sung by: Shankar Mahadevan

Aim: To inspire people to join the movement to fight the scourge of malnutrition

FICCI India Sports Awards 2019

Sports Person of the Year - Female: **Rani Rampal** (Hockey)

Sports Person of the Year - Male: **Saurabh Chaudhary** (Shooting)

Best National Sports Federation: **National Rifle Association of India**

Best Company Promoting Sports (Public Sector): **Railway Sports Promotion Board**

Best Para-athlete: **Sandeep Chaudhary** (Javelin).

Breakthrough Sports Person: **Amit Panghal** (Boxing)

Lifetime Achievement: **Pankaj Advani** (Cue sports)

Best State promoting sports: **Odisha**

Sahitya Akademi Awards 2019

Language	Title and Genre	Author
Assamese	Chanakya (Novel)	Joyshree Goswami Mahanta
Bengali	Ghumer Darja Thele (Essays)	Chinmiy Guha
Bodo	Akhai Athumniphrai (Poetry)	Phukan Ch. Basumatary
Dogri	Bandraitra Darpan (Essays)	Om Sharma Jandriari
English	An Era of Darkness (Non-Fiction)	Shashi Tharoor
Gujarati	Mojma Revu Re (Essays)	Ratilal Borisagar
Hindi	Cheelate Hue Apne Ko (Poetry)	Nand Kishore Acharya
Kannada	Kudi Esaru (Autobiography)	Vijaya
Kashmiri	Akh Yaad Akh Qayamat (Short Stories)	Abdul Ahad Hajini
Konkani	The Words (Poetry)	Nilba A. Khandekar
Maithili	Jingik Oriakon Karait (Poetry)	Kumar Manish Arvind
Malayalam	Achan Piranna Veedu (Poetry)	Anuradha Patil
Manipuri	Ei Amadi Adungeigi Eethat (Novel)	L. Birmangol Singh
Marathi	Kadachit Ajoonahi (Poetry)	Anuradha Patil
Odia	Bhaswati (Short Stories)	Tarun Kanti Mishra
Punjabi	Antheen (Short Stories)	Kirpal Kazak
Rajasthani	Bareek Baat (Short Stories)	Ramsawroop Kisan
Sanskrit	Prajnachakshusham (Poetry)	Penna Madhusudan
Santali	Sisirjali (Short Stories)	Kali Charan Hembram
Sindhi	Jeejal (Short Stories)	Ishwar Moorjani
Tamil	Sool (Novel)	Cho. Dhaman
Telugu	Saptabhoomi (Novel)	Bandi Narayana Swamy
Urdu	Sawaneh-E-Sir Syed: Ek Bazdeed (Biography)	Shafey Kidwai

Launch of RISAT-2BR1

Launch date: 11.12.2019

Launch vehicle: PSLV-C48

Launched from: SDSC SHAR, Sriharikota

RISAT-2BR1 is radar imaging earth observation satellite weighing about 628 kg. The satellite will provide services in the field of Agriculture, Forestry and Disaster Management. The mission life of RISAT-2BR1 is 5 years.

Alongwith RISAT, nine customer satellites of Israel, Italy, Japan and USA were also injected into their designated orbits. These satellites were launched under a commercial arrangement with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL).

The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019

The Act provides for the following, namely:—

1. Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan, who entered India on or before December 31, 2014, will not be treated as illegal migrants.
2. Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan, can apply for citizenship by naturalization on completion of 5 years instead of 11 years.
3. These provisions on citizenship for illegal migrants will not apply to the tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Tripura, included in the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution. Further, it will not apply to the “Inner Line” areas notified under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873. (applicable to Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland and Manipur.)

Important Days of December

World AIDS Day: 01 December 2019 Designated by: World Health Organisation Theme: Communities make the difference First Observed in: 1988
International Day of Persons with Disabilities: 03 December 2019 Designated by : United Nations General Assembly Theme: Promoting the participation of persons with disabilities and their leadership: taking action on the 2030 Development Agenda First Observed in: 1992
International Volunteer Day: 05 December 2019 Designated by : United Nations General Assembly Theme: Volunteer for an inclusive future First Observed in: 1986
World Soil Day: 05 December 2019 First launched by : International Union of Soil Sciences (2002) Endorsed by : Food and Agricultural Organisation (Jun 2013) Accepted by : United Nations General Assembly (Dec 2013) Theme: Stop Soil Erosion, Save our Future

<p>International Civil Aviation Day: 07 December 2019 Established by : International Civil Aviation Organisation (1994) Adopted by : United Nations General Assembly (1996)</p>
<p>International Anti Corruption Day: 09 December 2019 Designated by : United Nations General Assembly First Observed in: 2003 Theme: United against Corruption</p>
<p>United Nations Human Rights Day: 10 December 2019 Designated by : United Nations General Assembly Theme: Youth Standing up for human rights First Observed in: 1948</p>
<p>International Mountains Day: 11 December 2019 Designated by : United Nations General Assembly Theme: Mountains Matter for Youth First Observed in: 2003</p>
<p>International Universal Health Coverage Day: 12 December 2019 Designated by : United Nations General Assembly Theme: Keep the Promise First Observed in: 2017</p>
<p>International Migrants Day: 18 December 2019 Designated by : United Nations General Assembly Theme: We together First Observed in: 2000</p>
<p>International Human Solidarity Day: 20 December 2019 Designated by : United Nations General Assembly First Observed in: 2006</p>

Abbreviations in News

IMI - Intensified Mission Indradhanush

PPRTMS - Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System

Books in News

Turbulence and Triumph - The Modi Year by Rahul Agarwal and Bharti S Pradhan

Mail your queries and suggestions to admin@leadthecompetition.in