

## **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: Rural Development – **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

Ranking	Country	Ranking	Country
1.	Denmark	80	China
1.	New Zealand	80	India
3.	Finland	93	Sri Lanka
4.	Singapore	113	Sri Lanka
4.	Sweden	120	Pakistan

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 Munnann 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

Ranking	Country	Ranking	Country
1.	Norway	51	India
2.	Iceland	69	Sri Lanka
3.	Sweden	80	Bangladesh
4.	New Zealand	92	Nepal
5.	Finland	108	Pakistan

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).

Rankings

Ranking	Country	Ranking	Country
1.	Denmark	45.	China
2.	Norway	59.	Sri Lanka
3.	Finland	76.	India
4.	Sweden	78.	Bangladesh
5.	Iceland	79.	Pakistan

### **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 Srikanth**

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 Pejavara Adhokhaja Matha Udupi (Posthumous)

#### **Padma Bhushan**

**Public Affairs:** 1. Shri Syed Muazzem Ali (Posthumous)(Bangladesh), 2. Shri Muzaffar Hussain Baig, 3. Shri SC Jamir, 4. Shri Neelakanta Ramakrishna Madhava Menon (Posthumous), 5. Shri Manohar Gopalkrishna Prabhu Parrikar (Posthumous)

**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**

**Art:** 1. Guru Shashadhar Acharya; 2. Ms. Indira P. P. Bora; 3. Shri Madan Singh Chauhan; 4. Ms. Lalitha & Ms. Saroja Chidambaram (Duo); 5. Dr. Vajira Chitrasena; 6. Dr. Purushottam Dadheech; 7. Shri Utsav Charan Das; 8. Shri Manohar Devadoss; 9. Shri Yadla Gopal Rao; 10. Shri Mitrabhanu Gountia; 11. Shri Madhu Mansuri Hasmukh; 12. Ms. Shanti Jain; 13. Shri Karan Johar; 14. Ms. Sarita Joshi; 15. Ms. Ekta Kapoor; 16. Shri Yazdi Naoshirwan Karanjia; 17. Shri V. K. Munusamy Krishnapakthar; 18. Shri Manmohan Mahapatra (Posthumous); 19. Ustad Anwar Khan Mangniyar; 20. Shri Munna Master; 21. Shri Manilal Nag; 22. Ms. Moozhikkal Pankajakshi; 23. Ms. Kangana Ranaut; 24. Shri Dalavai Chalapathi Rao

**Literature and Education:** 1. Kazi Masum Akhtar; 2. Ms. Gloria Arieira; 3. Dr. Damayanti Beshra; 4. Shri Lil Bahadur Chettri; 5. Prof. Indra Dassanayake (Posthumous); 6. Shri H. M. Desai; 7. Ms. Meenakshi Jain; 8. Shri Benichandra Jamatia; 9. Shri C. Kamlova; 10. Shri Narayan J. Joshi Karayal; 11. Shri S. P. Kothari; 12. Prof. Abhiraj Rajendra Mishra; 13. Ms. Binapani Mohanty; 14. Dr. Prithwindra Mukherjee; 15. Shri N. Chandrasekharan Nair; 16. Shri Shiv Datt Nirmohi; 17. Dr. Prasanta Kumar Pattanaik; 18. Shri Jogendra Nath Phukan; 19. Shri Yogesh Praveen; 20. Shri Shahbuddin Rathod; 21. Shri K. V. Sampath Kumar & Ms. Vidushi Jayalakshmi K.S.(Duo); 22. Shri Pu Lalbiakthanga Pachuau

**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 Radhammohan & Ms. Sabarmatee (Duo) (Agriculture); 4. Ms. Trinity Saioo (Agriculture); 5. Shri Batakrushna Sahoo (Animal-Husbandry); 6. 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

**Social Work:** 1. Shri Jagdish Lal Ahuja; 2. Shri Pawar Popatrao Bhaguji; 3. Shri Himmata Ram Bhambhu; 4. Ms. Usha Chaumar; 5. Ms. Lia Diskin; 6. Ms. Tulasi Gowda; 7. Shri Harekala Hajabba; 8. Shri Abdul Jabbar (Posthumous); 9. Shri Bimal Kumar Jain; 10. Shri M. K. Kunjol; 11. Shri Sathyanarayan Mundayoor; 12. Dr. Tetsu Nakamura (Posthumous); 13. Shri S. Ramakrishnan; 14. Shri Kalyan Singh Rawat

**Sports:** 1. Khan Zaheer Khan Bakhtiyarkhan; 2. Ms. Oinam Bem Bem Devi; 3. Shri M. P. Ganesh; 4. Shri Jitu Rai; 5. Shri Tarundeep Rai; 6. Ms. Rani Rampal

**Trade and Industry:** 1. Shri Jai Prakash Agarwal; 2. Shri Sanjeev Bikhchandani; 3. Shri Gafurbhai M. Bilakhia; 4. Shri Chewang Motup Goba; 5. Shri Bharat Goenka; 6. Shri Nemnath Jain

### 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)

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