

Who took charge as new Chief Election Commissioner of India?

- A. Ranjan Kumar
- B. Sunil Arora
- C. Rishi Mishra
- D. Deepak Sharma

Answer: B

Explanation: Sunil Arora took charge as the Chief Election Commissioner of India . He succeeded OP Rawat who retired on 2nd Deceber 2018.



Arora was appointed as election commissioner in September 2017. He will have a nearly two-and-a-half-year tenure as Chief Election Commissioner with 2019 General Elections to be conducted under his stewardship. Sunil Arora has served in several key positions as a bureaucrat, including as information and broadcasting secretary, secretary in the ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship and chairman and managing director of Indian Airlines.

The bilateral naval exercise 'Konkan 18' has started between India and which country?

- A. Japan
- B. Singapore
- C. Indonesia
- D. United Kingdom

Answer: D

Explanation: Naval cooperation between India and the United Kingdom is based on the long term strategic relationship between both countries. Both Navies have, over the years, undertaken bilateral activities such as training exchanges and technical cooperation. The Bilateral KONKAN exercise provides a platform for the two Navies to periodically exercise at sea and in harbour, so as to build interoperability and share best practices. The KONKAN series of exercises commenced in 2004, and since then has grown in scale. KONKAN-2018 will be conducted from 28 Nov to 06 Dec 18 off Goa with units participating from both navies.



Who wins World Chess Championship title 2018?

- A. Magnus Carlsen
- B. Vladimir Kramnik
- C. Fabiano Caruana
- D. Viswanathan Anand

Answer: A

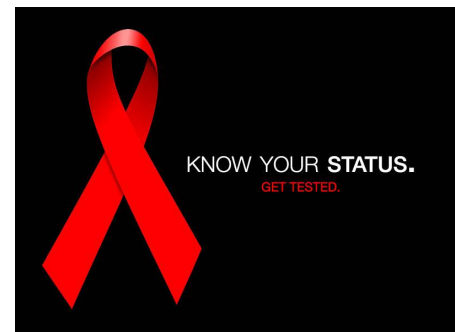
Explanation: Magnus Carlsen convincingly retained his world chess champion title by beating Fabiano Caruana 3-0 in the rapid match at today's tiebreak in London. Carlsen's first reaction after winning today's tiebreak emphasized what had been critical for his victory: having a good day when everything is decided on just one afternoon. Caruana, who had played such great chess—definitely not worse than his opponent in the classical portion—couldn't say the same. Carlsen, who has won the championship three times before and was the favourite to win the game, took a two-match lead and needed only a draw in the third tie-breaker to seal his victory.

What is theme of World AIDS Day 2018?

- A. Know Your Status
- B. Lets discuss AIDS
- C. Right to health
- D. Right to speak

Answer: A

Explanation: World AIDS Day is designated on 1 December every year since 1988. The day provides an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, to show support for people living with HIV and to commemorate those who have died from an AIDS-related illness. More than 35 million people have died of HIV or AIDS, making it one of the most destructive pandemics in history. The theme for the World AIDS Day 2018 is "Know Your Status". This will also be an occasion to celebrate the 30th anniversary of WAD.

**Who has been elected the first woman President of Georgia?**

- A. Bidzina Ivanishvili
- B. Salome Zurabishvili
- C. Grigol Vashadze

D. Grigol Vashadze

Answer: B

Explanation: Salome Zurbishvili has won Georgia's presidential election, becoming the first woman to hold the office. With nearly all votes counted, the French-born ex-diplomat had 59% of the vote with rival Grigol Vashadze on 40%. Ms Zurbishvili was backed by the ruling Georgian Dream party, while Mr Vashadze was a united opposition candidate. A new constitution is due to come into force, making the role of president largely ceremonial. Ms Zurbishvili, 66, was born in Paris after her parents fled Georgia in 1921 following its annexation by Soviet forces.

Which country recently begins registration for drone operators?

- A. India
- B. Pakistan
- C. Srilanka
- D. Bhutan

Answer: A

Explanation: Civil Aviation Ministry announced it has started the registration process for drone operators in the country, to be done through a portal called 'Digital Sky'. The government, in August, had put in place regulations for operations of remotely piloted aircraft, to come into effect from December 1. Under these norms, drone users will be required to do one-time registration of their drones. They will also need to register the pilots of drones as well as their owners. For drones of micro size and above categories, operators are required to register on the Digital Sky portal, he said in another tweet. It also said the digital platform has begun accepting registrations of users, and payments for Unmanned Aerial Operator's Permit (UAOP) and Unique Identification Numbers (UIN) will be accepted through the Bharat Kosh portal (bharatkosh.gov.in).

Which leader was recently stripped off the Freedom of Paris award?

- A. US President Donald Trump
- B. Maldives President Abdulla Yameen
- C. Saudi Arabia prince Mohammed bin Salman

D. Myanmar Leader Aung San Suu Kyi

Answer: D

Explanation: Aung San Suu Kyi, the Nobel peace laureate & Myanmar leader, was stripped of Freedom of Paris award over her failure to speak out against a crackdown on Myanmar's Rohingya minority. The move follows similar decisions by Glasgow, Edinburgh and Oxford.

What is the name of India's heaviest and most advanced communication satellite that was launched from Kourou in French Guiana on 5 December 2018?

- A. GSAT-23
- B. GSAT-11
- C. CRAFT-23
- D. GEOSAT-11

Answer: B

Explanation: India's heaviest and most advanced communication satellite GSAT-11 was launched from the European spaceport at Kourou in French Guiana in the early hours of 5 December 2018. It was placed into its orbit by Ariane 5 VA246 rocket of the European Space Agency. The 5,854-kg GSAT-11, built by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), is expected to enable much faster Internet services than now to users down home over the next 15 years. It will play a vital role in providing broadband services across the country. It will also provide a platform to demonstrate new generation applications.

Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador has been sworn in as 58th President of which nation?

- A. Spain
- B. Mexico
- C. Egypt
- D. Poland

Answer: B

Explanation: Veteran leftist leader Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador has been sworn in as the 58th President of Mexico. Obrador won a landslide victory in the July 1 Presidential Elections, the biggest win for any president and the first for a leftist since Mexico transitioned to multi-party democracy in 2000.

Who was appointed as the Finance Secretary of India?

- A. Hasmukh Adhia
- B. Suresh Modi
- C. Jatin Pandey
- D. Ajay Narayan Jha

Answer: D

Explanation: Ajay Narayan Jha, a 1982-batch IAS officer of Manipur Tripura cadre, was appointed as the new

Finance Secretary of India. He succeeded Hasmukh Adhia. The Finance Secretary is the Permanent Secretary-level civil servant, who plays a leadership role in the bureaucracy of the Finance Ministry.

**Who won the Sahitya Academy Award 2018 in Hindi Language in Novels category?**

- A. Chitra Mudgal
- B. Sanjib Chattopadhyay
- C. Anees Salim
- D. Ramesan Nair

Answer: A

Explanation: India's national academy of letters, Sahitya Akademi on December 6, 2018 announced the annual 'Sahitya Akademi Awards 2018', recognising the literary works of 24 writers in 24 different Indian languages. To name a few, this year's winners include Sanjib Chattopadhyay for Bengali, Anees Salim for English, Sharifa Vijliwala for her essays in Gujarati, Chitra Mudgal for Hindi, and S Ramesan Nair for his poetry in Malayalam.

Who was appointed the new Chief Economic Advisor by the Union Government on 7 December 2018?

- A. Shaktikanta Das
- B. Krishnamurthy Subramanian
- C. Rajiv Mehrishi
- D. Kaushik Basu

Answer: B

Explanation: Krishnamurthy Subramanian, currently an associate professor at the Hyderabad-based Indian School of Business (ISB), was appointed as the new Chief Economic Advisor (CEA. for a

period of three years by the Union Government on 7 December 2018. He has been a part of expert committees on corporate governance for the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and on the governance of banks for the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). He replaces Arvind Subramanian, who had resigned from his position due to personal reasons in August 2018.

Which political party won the Rajasthan Assembly Elections 2018?

- A. Indian National Congress
- B. Bharatiya Janata Party
- C. BSP
- D. Rashtriya Loktantrik Party

Answer: A

Explanation: The Indian National Congress (INC) emerged as the single largest party in Rajasthan, winning 99 seats on its own and one more with RLD in the 2018 Rajasthan Assembly Elections. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) trailed behind with 73 seats and others fetched 27 seats. The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) showcased an impressive run by winning six seats, and Hanuman Beniwal-led Rashtriya Loktantrik Party won three seats.

Which party has won in the Telangana Assembly Elections 2018?

- A. TRS
- B. INC
- C. BJP
- D. TDP

Answer: A

Explanation: The ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi has secured a simple majority in the 119-member state assembly of Telangana by winning 87 seats on December 11, 2018. While the Congress came second with 19 seats, the TDP managed to win 2 seats, the BJP won one and the others won 9.

Who assumed charge as Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- A. Viral Acharya
- B.

C. Rajiv Mehrishi

D. Kaushik Basu

Answer: B

Explanation: Shaktikanta Das was on December 12, 2018 assumed charge as the 25th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, made his appointment within 24 hours of Urjit Patel's sudden resignation as RBI Governor. Das will have a three-year term.



Joint military exercise 'Hand-in-Hand' began between India and which country?

A. China

B. Japan

C. Malaysia

D. South Korea

Answer: A

Explanation: The armies of India and China started the 7th edition of joint military exercise 'Hand-in-Hand 2018' on December 11, 2018 at Chengdu in China. The purpose of the joint military drill is to improve the capabilities of the two armies in fighting terrorism and promote mutual understanding.

Who wins 54th Jnanpith Award 2018?

A. Amitav Ghosh

B. Sanjib Chattopadhyay

C. Anees Salim

D. Chitra Mudgal

Answer: A

Explanation: Noted English author Amitav Ghosh has been honoured with Jnanpith Award for 2018, an award for outstanding contribution to literature. The decision was taken in a meeting of Jnanpith Selection Board chaired by eminent novelist, scholar and Jnanpith laureate Pratibha Ray. Ghosh, one of the most prominent contemporary Indian writers, is known for a series of novels such as "Shadow Lines", "The Glass Palace", "The Hungry Tide", and Ibis



Trilogy — “Sea of Poppies”, and “River of Smoke”. He has become the first English author to be honoured with the award.

Who is nominated as New Chairman of the FTII?

- A. Sudhip Choudhary
- B. B.P. Singh
- C. Anushka Sharma
- D. Rajat Sharma

Answer: B

Explanation: The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has nominated current Vice Chairman of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) Brijendra Pal Singh (B.P. Singh) as the new President of the FTII Society and Chairman of Governing Council. Singh is the creator, director and producer of popular television series CID and Aahat. An alumnus of the institution, he replaces Anupam Kher, who announced in October 2018 that he will be stepping down owing to a “busy schedule”. The post of President of the FTII Society and Chairman of Governing Council has been mired in controversy since 2015 when Gajendra Chauhan was appointed to the position. The news sparked mass protests from students of the institution who felt that his appointment was politically motivated.

Tulsi Giri passes away recently. He was PM of which country?

- A. Bhutan
- B. Nepal
- C. India
- D. Srilanka

Answer: B

Explanation: Former Nepalese Prime Minister Tulsi Giri passed away in Kathmandu. He was 92. The veteran politician breathed his last in his residence at Budhanilkantha after suffering from liver cancer. Giri was politically active from 1960 to 2005.

Which IT company appoints Nilanjan Roy as new CFO?

- A. Wipro
- B. TCS
- C. HCL
- D. Infosys

Answer: D

Explanation: Infosys Ltd has appointed Bharti Airtel Ltd's global CFO Nilanjan Roy as chief financial officer. He replaces interim CFO Jayesh Sanghrajka, who will resume his responsibilities as deputy CFO. Roy spent 13 years with Airtel, before which he worked for 15 years with Unilever across their global operations.

Which country win FIH Hockey World Cup 2018 ?

- A. Japan
- B. France
- C. Belgium
- D. Netherlands

Answer: C

Explanation: Olympic silver medallists Belgium became the sixth team to win the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup as it defeated three-time champions Netherlands 3-2 in shootout in an intense final played on 16 December 2018. After both teams failed to score in regulation time, Belgium edged past Netherlands to clinch the World Cup. For Belgium, Florent Van Aubel struck twice in the shootout while Victor Wegnez was on target once. Arthur Van Doren (Belgium) was named the Best Player of the tournament. Belgium became overall the sixth team to hold the prestigious trophy. Other 5 champions are – Pakistan (in 1971, 1978, 1982 and 1994), Netherlands (1973, 1990 and 1998), Australia (1986, 2010 and 2014), Germany (2002 and 2006) and India (1975). Earlier Australia defeated England 8-1 to win the third place. Hosts India finished at sixth spot. This was the 14th edition of the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup and was held at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar from 28 November to 16 December 2018.

Who took oath as the new Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh on 17 December 2018?

- A. Jyotiradiya Scendiya
- B. Kamal Nath
- C. Ashok Gehlot
- D. Sachin Pilot

Answer: B

Explanation: On 17 December 2018 Veteran Congress leader Kamal Nath took oath as the 18th Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.

Kamal Nath is also the chief of Madhya Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC). Governor Anandiben Patel administered the oath of office and secrecy to him in the presence of Congress president Rahul Gandhi and others. It is worth mentioning that the Congress dislodged the ruling BJP from power after scoring a historic victory in the recently held assembly elections. Congress won 114 of the 230 seats while BJP won 109 seats. BSP, which won 2 seats, has supported the Congress. Kamal Nath replaced BJP's Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who was Madhya Pradesh's Chief Minister since 29 November 2005.

Who became new Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh on 17 December 2018?

- A. Bhupesh Baghel
- B. Kamal Nath
- C. Ashok Gehlot
- D. Dr. Raman Singh

Answer: A

Explanation: Congress leader Bhupesh Baghel took oath as the chief minister of Chhattisgarh in Raipur on 17 December 2018. Senior leaders Tamradhwaj Sahu and TS Singh Deo were also sworn in as ministers. Congress had won 68 seats, while Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had to settle at 15 in the Assembly elections, the results of which were announced on 11 December 2018. Baghel became third Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh. State's second Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh had been state's Chief Minister since 2 December 2003.

Which cricketer was formally inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame of December 26, 2018?

- A. Virendra Sehwag
- B. Ricky Ponting
- C. Sachin Tendulkar
- D. AB de Villiers

Answer: B

Explanation: Former Australia captain Ricky Ponting was on December 26, 2018 formally inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame. Ponting was named in the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame along with former India captain Rahul Dravid and England woman

wicketkeeper-batter Claire Taylor during the ICC Annual Conference in Dublin in July, which Ponting could not attend.

Who was named Balkan athlete of the year 2018?

- A. Luka Modric
- B. Novak Djokovic
- C. Lionel Messi
- D. Roger Federer

Answer: A

Explanation: The captain of the Croatian national football team, Luka Modric, who led his team to the World Cup final in July, has been named Balkan athlete of the year 2018. Men's tennis world number one Novak Djokovic of Serbia was second in the Balkan poll, while the Women's number one, Romania's Simona Halep, was third.

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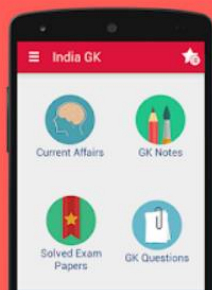
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