

Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley presented the Union Budget for 2018-19 on 1 February 2018. What is fiscal deficit target for 2018-19?

- A. 4.3%
- A. 3.0%
- A. 3.3%
- A. 3.8%

Answer: C

Explanation: In the Budget declaration, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley disclosed that the government has revised the fiscal consolidation glide path and set fiscal deficit target for 2018-19 now at 3.3% of GDP against earlier target of 3% of GDP. It was also disclosed that the government has breached the fiscal deficit target for 2017-18. While the budget estimate was 3.3%, the revised estimate is 3.5%.

Budget 2018-19

Figures in ₹ crore	2016-17 Actuals	2017-18 Budget Estimates	2017-18 Revised Estimates	2018-19 Budget Estimates
Revenue Receipts	13,74,203	15,15,771	15,05,428	17,25,738
Capital Receipts*	6,00,991	6,30,964	7,12,322	7,16,475
Total Receipts	19,75,194	21,46,735	22,17,750	24,42,213
Total Expenditure	19,75,194	21,46,735	22,17,750	24,42,213
Revenue Deficit	3,16,381	3,21,163	4,38,877	4,16,034
Effective Revenue Deficit	1,50,648	1,25,813	2,49,632	2,20,689
Fiscal Deficit	5,35,618	5,46,531	5,94,849	6,24,276
Primary Deficit	54,904	23,453	64,006	48,481

\*Excluding receipts under Market Stabilisation Scheme

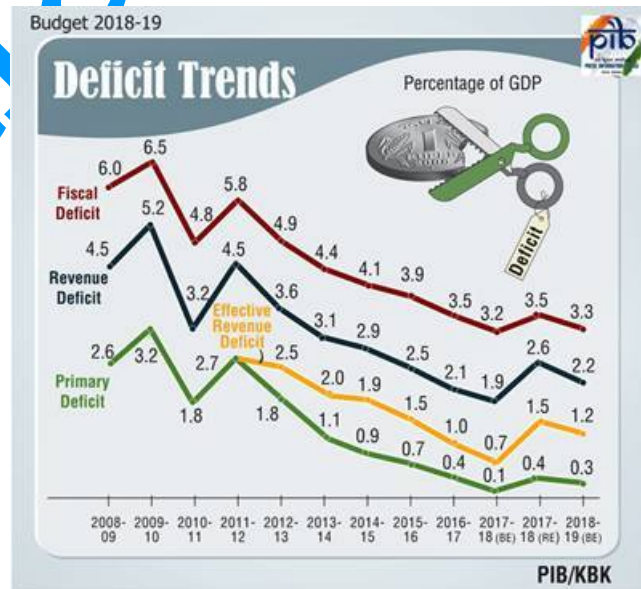
PIB/KBK

What is the disinvestment target for 2018-19, as was announced in the Union Budget on 1 February 2018?

- A. Rs. 50,000 crore
- A. Rs. 70,000 crore
- A. Rs. 90,000 crore
- A. Rs. 80,000 crore

Answer: D

Explanation: The government in the Budget presented on 1 February 2018 announced a disinvestment target of Rs 80,000 crore for 2018-19 while suggesting that the figure for the current fiscal may cross the Rs 1 lakh crore mark. In his previous Budget speech in 2017, Jaitley had pegged the divestment target at Rs 72,500 crore. With total disinvestment proceeds of Rs 54,338 crore so far, the Rs 37,000 crore ONGC-HPCL deal is all set to push the divestment proceeds in FY18 to a record Rs 1 lakh crore mark.



**Which country is the world's largest steel producer in 2017?**

- A. USA
- B. Japan
- C. India
- D. China

Answer: D

Explanation: China has remained the world's largest steel producer in 2017 by producing 831.7 million tonnes (MT), according to a latest report published by World Steel Association (WSA). Japan has acquired 2nd position while India overtook the US to become the world's 3rd largest steel producer. India's crude steel production grew by 6.2% to 101.4 MT in 2017 compared to 95.5 MT in 2016. The Global steel production reached 1,691.2 MT for the year 2017, up by 5.3% compared to 2016 when the output was 1,606.3 MT. The WSA is one of the largest industry associations in the world. Its members represent approximately 85% of the world's steel production, including over 160 steel producers with 9 of the 10 largest steel companies, national and regional steel industry associations, and steel research institutes.

**What is the name given to the 4% cess announced in the Union Budget 2018-19 on 1 February 2018 that will replace the present 3% Education cess?**

- A. Health and Education Cess
- B. MSP and Education cess
- C. Health Cess
- D. New India cess

Answer: A

Explanation: The Union Government proposed to replace existing 3% education cess on personal income tax and corporation tax with a new 4% 'Health and Education Cess' to take care the education and health needs of poor and rural families, as was announced on 1 February 2018. At present, a 3% cess, consisting of 2% cess for primary education and 1% cess for secondary and higher education, is levied on personal income tax and corporation tax.

**Which company recently announce to buy Xerox Corp ?**

- A. Nokia
- B. Fujifilm
- C. Kodak
- D. Newyork Times

Answer: B

Explanation: Tokyo-based Fujifilm Holdings Corp. will buy control of Xerox Corp. in a deal that creates an \$18 billion company and marks the end of the independence of the iconic American corporate giant. This deal was announced on 31 January 2018. Xerox, which has a market value of \$8.3 billion, will first merge with a joint venture the company operates with Fujifilm in Asia. Fujifilm will ultimately end up owning 50.1% of the combined entity, which expands the joint venture to encompass all of Xerox's operations. The deal marks the end of independence for a US company whose roots trace back to the start of the 20th century. While Xerox became famous for its hardware, it has fallen on hard times as Canon Inc. and Asian competitors eroded its dominance while email and other forms of electronic communications took over.

**Who has been bestowed with the V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award 2018?**

- A. Shatrughan Sinha
- B. Anurag Kashyap
- C. Vishal Bhardwaj
- D. Shyam Benegal

Answer: D

Explanation: Shyam Benegal, the veteran film producer and director, has been bestowed with the prestigious V. Shantaram lifetime achievement Award 2018 for his contribution to the promotion of the documentary movement. The award, carrying a trophy, a citation, shawl and cash prize of Rs 10 lakh, has been conferred on Benegal by Maharashtra Governor C.V. Rao at the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) 2018 valedictory function on February 3, 2018. Benegal has made 28 great films like Ankur, Mandi, Bhumika and Manthan. Besides that, he has made



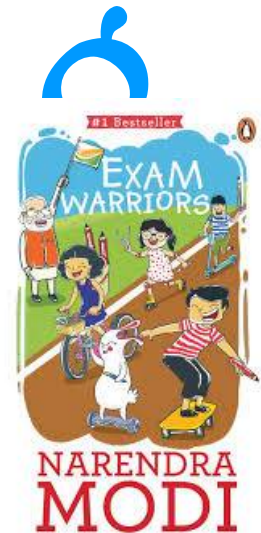
41 documentary films on various social topics. His work on television consists of several popular series including the 53 part series 'Bharat Ek Khoj' first broadcast on Doordarshan in 1988. He also made the much acclaimed 'Samvidhaan – The Making of the Constitution of India". He is the recipient of the national award in 1982 for the film 'Satyajit Ray'. The Government of India has honored him with Padmashree, Padma-Bhushan and Dada Saheb Phalke award earlier.

**Who is author of the book "Exam Warriors" ?**

- A. Smriti Irani
- B. Maneka Gandhi
- C. Narendra Modi
- D. Uma bharti

Answer: C

Explanation: "Exam Warriors" is the name of the book written by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi that was released on 4 February 2018. The book offers '25 mantras' to the students going to appear in various exams and tells that students need not see exams as a life-and-death situation. Published by Penguin Random House, the 193-page Prime Minister's book advises students to stay calm and focused during the examination period. The mantras highlight the need to treat exams like festivals, the importance of technology and the quality of sleep required to beat the stress. This book is written in a fun, interactive manner with colourful illustration, activities, yoga exercises and also contains a letter from the prime minister to the teachers and parents.



**What is India's rank in the Global Democracy Index 2018 compiled by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)?**

- A. 68th
- B. 52nd
- C. 38th
- D. 42nd

Answer: D

Explanation: India has slipped to 42nd place on the annual Global Democracy Index (GDI) that was released during January 2018. The

annual listing compiled by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) has downgraded India by 10 places as India moved down from 32nd place last year. India remains classified among 'flawed democracies' amid "rise of conservative religious ideologies" and increase in vigilantism and violence against minorities as well as other dissenting voices. The index ranks 165 independent states and two territories on the basis of five categories: electoral process and pluralism, civil liberties, the functioning of government, political participation and political culture. Norway has again topped the list, followed by Iceland and Sweden. New Zealand is at fourth and Denmark at fifth place, while others in top ten include Ireland, Canada, Australia, Finland and Switzerland.

**Which company started #SecurityCheckKiya campaign to create about Internet safety?**

- A. Microsoft
- B. Google
- C. Infosys
- D. Amazon

Answer: B

Explanation: #SecurityCheckKiya (Hindi for "Did you do a Security Check?") is the name given to the awareness campaign started by Google India that primarily aims to create security awareness among young and first-time internet users. The campaign was started from 5 February 2018, on the eve of the Safer Internet Day. The campaign outlines basic steps users can take to protect themselves from account hijacks, safeguard Android devices from malware, and secure personal data in the event of a device loss.

**Which state government has launched the 'Gobardhan Yojana' to support farmers?**

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Gujarat
- C. Haryana
- D. Punjab

Answer: C

Explanation: The Haryana government has launched the 'Gobardhan Yojana' to provide for the sale of organic manure and cow urine with an aim to benefit farmers. Under this scheme, a

provision of Rs 11 crore has been made to provide benefits of various projects. According to official release, the Gobardhan Yojana would help in doubling the income of farmers and next time, the MSP would be given with additional benefit of 50% over the cost of production.

**Winter Olympics 2018 started with a grand opening ceremony on 9 February 2018 in which country?**

- A. USA
- B. Ireland
- C. South Korea
- D. China

Answer: C

Explanation: The 2018 Winter Olympics (officially known as the XXIII Olympic Winter Games) were started from 9 February 2018 in South Korean city of PyeongChang. The Games were inaugurated with a grand opening ceremony held at the PyeongChang Olympic Stadium. The Games will conclude on 25 February 2018. Nearly 3000 athletes from 92 countries are participating in these Games that will witness 102 events from 7 sports. The motto of these Games is Passion Connected. Some important developments associated with these Games are – the joint participation of North and South Korea, the participation of Russian athletes in the wake of doping scandals and the extreme cold caused due to icy Siberian winds blowing through the PyeongChang county.

**Who has been sworn-in as the new Chairman of the Federal Reserve?**

- A. Jerome H Powell
- B. Janet Yellen
- C. Ben Bernanke
- D. Randal K. Quarles

Answer: A

Explanation: Jerome Hayden Powell has been sworn-in as the new Chairman of the Federal Reserve for a four-year term on February 5, 2018. The oath was administered by Vice Chairman Randal K. Quarles in the Board Room. He succeeded Janet Yellen, the first woman to lead the US central bank in its 100-year history. He was nominated to the position by President Donald Trump on November

2, 2017, and was later confirmed by the United States Senate. Prior to this appointment, Powell served as a member of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors .

**What is the current repo rate, according to 6th Bi-monthly Monetary policy statement for 2017-18?**

- A. 6.55%
- B. 6.25%
- C. 6.0%
- D. 5.75%

Answer: C

Explanation: In the 6th Bi-monthly Monetary policy statement for 2017-18, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has kept the key interest rate "repo rate" unchanged at 6% and reverse repo at 5.75%. Also, the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate kept at 6.25%. The decision of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is consistent with the neutral stance of monetary policy in consonance with the objective of achieving the medium-term target for consumer price index (CPI) inflation of 4% within a band of +/- 2%, while supporting growth.

**Who has become the world's first female cricketer to take 200 wickets in One-Day Internationals (ODI)?**

- A. Anjum Chopra
- B. Jhulan Goswami
- C. Veda Krishnamurthy
- D. Smriti Mandhana

Answer: B

Explanation: Jhulan Goswami, India's veteran pacer, has become the first female cricketer in the world to take 200 wickets in One-Day Internationals (ODI) cricket. She achieved the feat when she bagged the wicket of South Africa opener Laura Wolvaardt during the 2nd ODI of the 3-match series at the Diamond Oval in Kimberley. Beside her, Australia's Cathryn Fitzpatrick is at 2nd spot with 180 wickets followed by compatriot Lisa Sthalekar on 146. India's Neetu David occupies the fifth spot with 141 wickets. Interestingly, the first male cricketer to pick 200 ODI wickets was also an Indian – the great Kapil Dev.

**Which state has topped the overall medal tally at the first-ever Khelo India School Games 2018?**

- A. Kerala
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Haryana

Answer: D

Explanation: Haryana has topped the overall medal tally at the first-ever Khelo India School Games (KISG-2018) in New Delhi after winning the 102 medals which include 38 gold and 26 silver. Maharashtra has acquired the 2nd position with 111 medals while Delhi with 94 medals came third. The Khelo India School Games was a part of the Khelo India programme which has been introduced by the Union Sports Ministry to revive the sports culture in the country at the grassroots level and make India a sporting nation. The 16 sports disciplines including Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Football, Hockey, Judo, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Shooting, Weightlifting and Wrestling were the part of the weeklong event. It was organized at multiple venues across Delhi including Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium and Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium.

**Which state has topped the Health Index progressive report, which is recently released by NITI Aayog?**

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Punjab
- C. Gujarat
- D. Kerala

Answer: D

Explanation: Kerala has topped the list of larger states on overall health performance in the Health Index report released by Niti Aayog while Uttar Pradesh appeared at the bottom among larger states in terms of overall performance. As per the index "Healthy States, Progressive India" report for large states, Kerala was followed by Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. Besides Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar and Odisha are among the states that performed poorly in the health index. Among small states, Mizoram ranked first, followed by Manipur and Goa in terms of annual incremental performance. The Health Index will act as a tool to leverage



cooperative and competitive federalism, accelerating the pace of achieving health outcomes. It has been evolved through comprehensive study and inputs from World Bank India and Ministry of Health.

**Who was recently Conferred the Grand Collar Of The State Of Palestine?**

- A. Sonia Gandhi
- B. Manmohan Singh
- C. Narendra Modi
- D. Rajnath Singh

Answer: C

Explanation: Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred the 'Grand Collar of the State of Palestine' by President of Palestine Mahmoud Abbas, recognising his key contribution to promote relations between India and Palestine. President Abbas conferred the honour after the conclusion of the bilateral meeting between the two leaders. Modi is the first Indian Prime Minister to make an official visit to Palestine. The Grand Collar is Highest order given to foreign dignitaries - Kings, Heads of State/Government and persons of similar rank.

**Who has been sworn-in as the new Prime Minister of Nepal?**

- A. Sushil Koirala
- B. Sher Bahadur Deuba
- C. KP Sharma Oli
- D. Khil Raj Regmi

Answer: C

Explanation: Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli, the chairperson of Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist), has been sworn-in as the 41st Prime Minister of Nepal, after his Left alliance routed the ruling Nepali Congress in the country's historic parliamentary and local polls. President Bidhya Devi Bhandari administered the oath of office and secrecy to the newly-elected Prime Minister on 15 February 2018 under Article 76 of newly adopted Constitution of Nepal. Oli, who is known for his pro-China stance, has served his first stint as Prime Minister of Nepal from 11 October 2015 to 3 August 2016.

**Which country to host 2018 Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit?**

- A. Japan
- B. Lagos
- C. China
- D. India

Answer: C. China

Explanation: The 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO-2018) will be hosted by China in the city of Qingdao in June, 2018. China had taken over the rotating chair of SCO after the 17th SCO summit 2017, which was held in Astana, Kazakhstan in June 2017. The SCO is consists of China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan. The SCO focuses on security- related issues of the region especially on counter terrorism cooperation.

**Which state won Vijay Hazare Trophy for 2017-18 on 27 February 2018?**

- A. Punjab
- B. Kerala
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Karnataka

Answer: D. Karnataka

Explanation: Karnataka won the Vijay Hazare Trophy for 2018 by defeating Saurashtra by 41 runs on 27 February 2018. Needing to win 254 runs to win, Saurashtra team was all-out for 212 runs. The in-form Mayank Agarawal hit a brilliant 90 runs for Karnataka. This is the third Vijay Hazare Trophy for Karnataka. It had won the 2013-14 and 2014-15 editions by defeating Railways and Punjab respectively. This is also Karnataka's first domestic trophy of the season after having lost out on the Ranji Trophy and Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. The Vijay Hazare Trophy, also known as the Ranji One Day Trophy, was started in 2002-03 as a limited-overs cricket domestic competition involving state teams from the Ranji Trophy plates. It is named after the famous Indian cricketer Vijay Hazare.