

Who was awarded the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine?

- A. James P Allison and Tasuku Honjo
- B. Michael W. Young and Michael Rosbash
- C. Jeffrey C. Hall and Yoshinori Ohsumi
- D. Arthur Ashkin, Gérard Mourou and Donna Strickland

Answer: A

Explanation: The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet on October 1, 2018 awarded the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to James P. Allison and Tasuku Honjo “for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation”.

**Which of the following is the India's best institute, according to the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2019?**

- A. IISc Bengaluru
- B. IIT Madras
- C. IIT Roorkee
- D. IIT Indore

Answer: A

Explanation: No Indian institution figures in the top 250 of the Times Higher Education's (THE) world university rankings 2019. Though, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru has retained its position as the highest-ranked centre in India. It was placed between the 251-300 band, while IIT Indore, Bombay and Roorkee with Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeswara University from Karnataka make the country's top five. Globally, University of Oxford has acquired first position for a third consecutive year followed by Cambridge and Stanford University. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology rose one place to number four. In India, number of Indian institutions in the rankings increased from 42 last year to 49, making it the fifth best-represented nation.

Who was awarded the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics?

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- C. Jeffrey C. Hall and Yoshinori Ohsumi
- D. Arthur Ashkin, Gérard Mourou and Donna Strickland

Answer: D

Explanation: American scientist Arthur Ashkin, French engineer Gérard Mourou and Canadian professor Donna Strickland have been awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for their work in the field of laser physics on 2nd October 2018. Dr. Ashkin has been awarded the Prize "for the optical tweezers and their application to biological systems," stated the official Twitter handle of the Nobel Prize, given by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. Dr. Mourou and Dr. Strickland have been awarded "for their method of generating high-intensity, ultra-short optical pulses."

Who sworn-in as 46th Chief Justice Of India ?

- A. Justice Ranjan Gogoi
- B. Justice B.S. Khera
- C. Justice Manan Tanjai
- D. Justice Manpreet Singh

Answer: A

Explanation: Justice Ranjan Gogoi has sworn-in as new Chief Justice of India. President Ram Nath Kovind administered him the oath of office at a function in Rashtrapati Bhawan. He is succeeding Justice Dipak Misra who retired as Chief Justice of India recently. Justice Gogoi is the 46th Chief Justice of India. He will have a tenure of a little over 13 months and will retire on November 17, 2019. Justice Gogoi was enrolled as an advocate in 1978. He practised in the Gauhati high court on constitutional, taxation and company matters. He was appointed as a permanent judge of the Gauhati high court on February 28, 2001.



PM Narendra Modi share prestigious 'UNEP Champion of the Earth' award with whom?

- A. François Fillon
- B. François Hollande
- C. Emmanuel Macron
- D. Marine Le Pen

Answer: C

Explanation: The award announced on 26 September, on the sidelines of 73rd UN General Assembly at New York City, was presented by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on 3 October 2018 at a special ceremony in the Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra. PM Modi has got this award jointly with Emmanuel Macron, the president of France. Awarded annually, the 'UNEP Champion of the Earth' prize is given to outstanding leaders from government, civil society and the private sector whose actions have had a positive impact on the environment. Macron and Modi are recognized in the "Policy Leadership" category for their pioneering work in championing the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and promoting new areas of levels of cooperation on environmental action, including Macron's work on the "Global Pact for the Environment" and Modi's unprecedented pledge to eliminate all single-use plastic in India by 2022.

Who has been appointed the first-ever female major general in the 47 years history of Bangladesh?

- A. Nazma Zaidi
- B. Nasreen Jahan
- C. Shaheen Ghazi
- D. Susane Giti

Answer: D

Explanation: Dr Susane Giti has been appointed the first-ever female major general in the 47 years history of Bangladesh. She was presented with the rank badge of Major General by Bangladesh Army chief General Aziz Ahmed and Quarter Master General Lt General Md Shamsul Haque on September 30. Currently, she is the HOD of pathology department of Armed Forces Medical College. According to the Inter-Service Public Relations (ISPR), Giti joined the medical wing of the Bangladesh armed forces in 1986 as a captain. She was also the first woman to pass FCPS degree in Hematology in 1996.

Frances H. Arnold, George P. Smith, Sir Gregory P. Winter won the 2018 Nobel Prize in which field?

- A. Medicine
- B. Physics
- C. Chemistry

D. Literature

Answer: C

Explanation: The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2018 with one half to Frances H. Arnold "for the directed evolution of enzymes" and the other half jointly to George P. Smith and Sir Gregory P. Winter "for the phage display of peptides and antibodies." This announcement was made on 3 October 2018. Dr. Arnold and Dr. Smith are Americans, while Dr. Winter is British. The trio has worked extensively in the evolution enzymes and used it for purposes that bring the greatest benefit to humankind. Enzymes produced through directed evolution are used to manufacture everything from biofuels to pharmaceuticals.

Which Indian-American economist was appointed as chief economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), as was announced on 1 October 2018?

- A. Reeta Bahuguna
- B. Gita Gopinath
- C. Bala Subhramanyam
- D. Guruswamy Jayraman

Answer: B

Explanation: Prominent Indian-American economist Gita Gopinath was appointed as chief economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). This was announced by IMF chief Christine Lagarde on 1 October 2018. Gopinath succeeds Maurice (Maury) Obstfeld, who announced in July that he would retire at the end of 2018. She currently serves as the John Zwaanstra Professor of International Studies and Economics at Harvard University. A US citizen, she was born and grew up in India. She received her Ph.D. in economics from Princeton University in 2001 after earning a B.A. from the University of Delhi and M.A. degrees both from the Delhi School of Economics and University of Washington.

Who becomes youngest Indian player to score a Test century on debut?

- A. Yuval Choudhary
- B. Prithvi Shaw
- C. Shikhar Dhawan

D. Cheteshwar Pujara

Answer: B

Explanation: Prithvi Shaw made history by becoming the youngest Indian to score a Test century on debut. Shaw, at the age of 18 years and 329 days, reached the historic three-figure mark in just 99 balls against the West Indies on Day 1 of the opening Test at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium, Rajkot. Prithvi Shaw has become the youngest Indian to score a century on Test debut, achieving the feat aged 18 years and 329 days against Windies in Rajkot, Gujarat. Shaw broke the 59-year-old record set by AA Baig (20 years and 126 days). Shaw is only the second Indian after Sachin Tendulkar to score a Test ton before turning 19. Prithvi Shaw captained India Under-19 to World Cup victory in February 2018.

On 4 October 2018 Chanda Kochhar quit as CEO of which bank?

- A. IDBI Bank
- B. PNB
- C. SBI
- D. ICICI Bank

Answer: B

Explanation: Chanda Kochhar quit as CEO and MD of ICICI Bank with immediate effect on 4 October 2018. The private bank appointed Sandeep Bakhshi, the current chief operating officer (COO), as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for five years, subject to regulatory approval. Kochhar was on an absence of leave from office, pending an investigation into allegations of her having favoured family members in lieu of providing loans to a corporate house. In June 2018, a panel was set up under retired Supreme Court judge Justice Srikrishna to probe allegations against Chanda Kochhar.

India's first Global Skills Park will be set up in which state?

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Madhya Pradesh

Answer: D

Explanation: The foundation stone of the country's biggest Global Skill Park was laid in Bhopal. The park will come up on land allotted in Narela Shankari area of Bhopal. It will be established with the support of Institute of Technical Education Education Services Singapore (ITEES).

Who won the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize?

- A. Nadia Murad
- B. George P Smith
- C. Oprah Winfrey
- D. Sir Gregory P Winter

Answer: A

Explanation: The Norwegian Nobel Committee on October 5, 2018 awarded the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize to Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad "for their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict". Mukwege, a gynecologist and surgeon, has long worked to treat thousands of women and girls affected by rape and sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Murad is a Yazidi woman from the northern Iraqi town of Sinjar, who was held as a sex slave by ISIS, she told CNN in an interview last year. In 2016, at age 23, she was made a UN goodwill ambassador for the dignity of survivors of human trafficking. "Both laureates have made a crucial contribution to focusing attention on, and combating, such war crimes," said Berit Reiss-Andersen, chair of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, as she announced the award Friday at the Norwegian Nobel Institute in Oslo.



Who has been elected as the new President of Iraq?

- A. Barham Salih
- B. Fuad Masum
- C. Jalal Talabani
- D. Mashal Ajil al-Yawer

Answer: A

Explanation: Barham Ahmed Salih, the veteran Kurdistan politician, has been elected as the new President of Iraq on 2nd October 2018. He received 219 votes and defeated Fuad Hussein, who secured 22 votes. Salih is a former prime minister of the

Kurdistan Regional Government and a former deputy prime minister of the Iraqi federal government. The new president will have 15 days to task the nominee of the largest parliamentary bloc with forming a new government. However, President Saleh has named veteran Shia Islamist politician Adel Abdul Mahdi as prime minister-designate & ended months of deadlock. Now, Mr. Mahdi will have to oversee the reconstruction of Iraq following the four-year battle against the jihadist group Islamic State (IS), which left tens of thousands of homes and business destroyed and displaced more than three million people.

Who wins 2018 Nobel Prize in Literature?

- A. Jean-Claude Arnault
- B. Katarina Frostenson
- C. Both A and B
- D. None of above

Answer: D

Explanation: Swedish Academy, which organizes the Nobel Prize in Literature, announced in May 2018 that it will not award the 2018 honor due to sex abuse allegations that have raised turmoil among the academy members and cast critical light upon the prestigious annual award. The Swedish Academy, which makes the decision on the literature award, has been in crisis over its handling of rape and sexual assault allegations linked to one of its high-ranking members.

Jeremy Lalrinnunga is associated with which sports?

- A. Judo
- B. Boxing
- C. Shooting
- D. Weightlifting

Answer: D

Explanation: Jeremy Lalrinnunga won India's first gold medal at Youth Olympics in Argentina's capital Buenos Aires. The 15-year-old weightlifter shattered the national record in the men's 62kg category to claim the top honours. Manu Bhaker also rediscovered her form by shooting 236.5 to finish at the top with the gold medal in the women's 10m air pistol event.

Who was appointed as the Solicitor General of India?

- A. Tushar Mehta
- B. Dinesh Sharma
- C. Tilak Mishra
- D. Sunil Mehta

Answer: A

Explanation: Senior Advocate Tushar Mehta was on October 10, 2018 appointed as the Solicitor General of India with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the office for a period till June 30, 2020 or until further orders. His appointment was approved by the Appointment Committee of Cabinet. Presently, Mehta is serving as the Additional Solicitor General (ASG) of India. The post had been lying vacant since October 2017 when the then Solicitor General Ranjit Kumar had resigned. Solicitor General is the second highest ranking law officer of the government after the Attorney General.

**Who is elected new PM of Bhutan ?**

- A. Dorji Choden
- B. Lotay Tshering
- C. Ugyen Dorji
- D. Jigme Thinley

Answer: B

Explanation: Lotay Tshering, the President of Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa party was elected the new Prime Minister of the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan on 19 October 2018. His party won 30 of 47 national assembly seats in the third general election in Bhutan. Bhutan has now chosen a different party to rule at each election since the end of absolute monarchy in 2008. Tshering is a 50-year-old urology surgeon. He will replace Tshering Tobgay.

Who has been honored with the 19th Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration?

- A. Fali S. Nariman
- B. Bindeshwar Pathak
- C. D K Srivastava
- D. Ajit Doval

Answer: A

Explanation: On October 22, renowned jurist Fali S. Nariman has been honoured with the 19th Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration for year 2018 by the Vice President of India M. Venkaiah Naidu. The award was instituted by the Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management in 1995 in the field of Public Administration, Academics and Management. Each year, the award honours an Indian who is an exceptionally outstanding and distinguished business leader, management practitioner, public administrator, educator or institution builder for his/her sustained individual contributions and achievements.

Which of the following cricket teams has won the 2018 Vijay Hazare Trophy?

- A. Mumbai
- B. Delhi
- C. Bihar
- D. Kolkata

Answer: A

Explanation: The Mumbai cricket team clinched the 2018 Vijay Hazare Trophy after a gap of 11 years with a 4-wicket victory over Delhi at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. It's their 3rd title. Mumbai last won the trophy way back in 2006-07 when they defeated Rajasthan.

Name the Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) who was removed from his post recently?

- A. Alok Verma
- B. Rakesh Asthana
- C. Devender Kumar
- D. Sathish Babu Sana

Answer: A

Explanation: In a dramatic midnight action, the Union Government on October 23, 2018 removed CBI Director Alok Verma from his post. Verma was appointed as CBI Director in 2016 for two years and his tenure ends in December 2018.

Who became the 14th recipient of the 2018 Seoul Peace Prize?

- A. Donald Trump
- B. Vladimir Putin

- C. Narendra Modi
- D. Ban-Ki-Moon

Answer: C

Explanation: The Seoul Peace Prize Committee on October 24, 2018 conferred the 2018 Seoul Peace Prize on Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his contribution to world peace through his economic vision, 'Modinomics'. With this, PM Modi became the 14th recipient of this coveted award. The Seoul Peace Prize was established in 1990 to commemorate the success of the 24th Olympic Games held in Seoul. The award was established to crystallise Korean people's yearning for peace on the Korean peninsula and in the rest of the world.

Michael D Higgins has won a second term as the President of which nation?

- A. Italy
- B. Venezuela
- C. Spain
- D. Ireland

Answer: D

Explanation: Michael D Higgins has been re-elected as the President of Ireland after receiving 56 per cent of the country's votes in the elections. Businessman Peter Casey came second with 23.1 per cent votes, while none of the other four candidates polled more than 10 per cent.

Who was appointed as the new Prime Minister of Sri Lanka?

- A. Ranil Wickremesinghe
- B. Maithripala Sirisena
- C. Arjuna Ranatunga
- D. Mahinda Rajapaksa

Answer: D

Explanation: President Maithripala Sirisena on October 26, 2018 announced through a live television address that Ranil Wickremesinghe, with whom he had governed in a fragile coalition since 2015, had been dismissed and in his place, he had decided to appoint former president Mahinda Rajapaksa, the same man he had joined forces with Wickremesinghe in 2015 to defeat.

India Mobile Congress 2018 held in which city?

- A. Bangaluru
- B. Mumbai
- C. Delhi
- D. Jaipur

Answer: C

Explanation: India Mobile Congress is one of the biggest marquee Mobile, Internet, and Technology event for South-East Asia organized by COAI and DoT. IMC 2018, is envisaged to be an even bigger event with its theme "New Digital Horizons. Connect. Create. Innovate.". This technology mega event will be held from 25th to 27th October 2018, at Aerocity, New Delhi. The congress aims at building ideas, forging lasting Industry relationships, showcasing cutting-edge mobile technology & product trends, providing sectoral insights, industrial solutions, case studies & workshops.

Which company acquired Red Hat for \$34 Billion in its Biggest Purchase?

- A. Facebook
- B. Google
- C. IBM
- D. TCS

Answer: C

Explanation: America's IBM has acquired software company Red Hat in a \$34 billion cash and debt deal, marking its biggest ever acquisition till date. Founded 25 years ago, Red Hat was valued at about \$20.5 billion at the end of trading. The open source, enterprise software maker will become a unit of IBM's Hybrid Cloud division, with Red Hat CEO Jim Whitehurst joining IBM's senior management team and reporting to CEO Ginni Rometty.

The 'statue of unity' has been built to honour which former freedom fighter?

- A. Mahatma Gandhi
- B. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- C. Subhas Chandra Bose
- D. None of above

Answer: B

Explanation: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on October 31, 2018 unveil the bronze statue of India's first deputy prime minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at Kevadia in Gujarat's Narmada district. At 182 metres, the statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel will be the tallest statue in the world.

What is the name of India's first made-in-India engineless train?

- A. Fastrack 18
- B. Train 18
- C. Quix 18
- D. Bullet 18

Answer: B

Explanation: India's first made-in-India engineless train 'Train 18' hit the tracks for trials on October 29, 2018. After successful trials, the train will be handed over to Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) for further trials.

What was India's rank in the Ease of Doing Business Index 2019?

- A. 103rd
- B. 96th
- C. 77th
- D. 59th

Answer: C

Explanation: India ranked 77th among 190 countries by leapfrogging 23 ranks in World Bank's Ease of Doing Business (EODB) 2018 rankings. In the 2017 rankings, India ranked 100th and had jumped 30 places. In 2016, 2015 and 2014, India had not improved much and was placed at 130, 131 and 134, respectively, in ranking. EODB 2018 was topped by New Zealand (consecutive for third time), followed by Singapore, Denmark, and Hong Kong. US was placed at eighth and China was ranked 46th while Pakistan is placed at 136th.