

Important Days



1. The Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is observed every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of which leader?

- a) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- b) Indira Gandhi
- c) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- d) Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay

Answer: a)

Explanation: India observed Rashtriya Ekta Diwas on October 31, 2018 to commemorate the 143rd birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India. On this occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated world's tallest 'Statue of Unity' to the nation at Kevadiya in Narmada district of Gujarat.

2. When is World Hepatitis Day observed globally?

- a) 25 July
- b) 26 July
- c) 24 July
- d) 28 July

Answer: d)

Explanation: The World Hepatitis Day is observed globally on July 28, 2018 with the theme "Test. Treat. Hepatitis". The day aims to scale-up of hepatitis prevention, testing, treatment and care services. Hepatitis is a chronic infection that may not show symptoms for a long period, sometimes even for years or decades.

3. What was the theme of the 2018 National Statistics Day?

- a) Statistics on Trees & Climate Change
- b) Quality Assurance in Official Statistics
- c) Administrative Statistics
- d) Agri-Food Statistics

Answer: b)

Explanation: The "Statistics Day" is celebrated every year on June 29 at the National level in India to create public awareness about the importance of statistics in socio-economic planning and policy formulation. The 2018 theme is "Quality Assurance in Official Statistics" aims to underscore the importance of compliance with essential parameters of quality in statistical systems and products.

4. When is the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking observed every year?

- a) 23 June
- b) 24 June
- c) 25 June
- d) 26 June

Answer: d)

Explanation: The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was observed across the globe on June 26, 2018 with an aim to raise awareness of the major problem that illicit drugs represent to society. The theme of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking 2018 was "Listen First - Listening to children and youth is the first step to help them grow healthy and safe".

5. When the World Diabetes Day is celebrated every year?

- a) November 12
- b) November 13
- c) November 14
- d) November 15

Answer: c)

Explanation: The World Diabetes Day is observed every year on November 14 to raise awareness among families to discover, prevent and manage diabetes. The theme of World Diabetes Day 2018 was "The Family and Diabetes – diabetes concerns every family".

6. Which state celebrated its 18th Foundation Day on November 9?

- a) Uttarakhand

- b) Chhattisgarh
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Meghalaya

Answer: a)

Explanation: Uttarakhand celebrated its 18th Foundation Day on November 9, 2018. On the day, the region had become a state of the Union, after separation from Uttar Pradesh. In a tweet, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that he hoped that the state, which is a confluence of nature, progress and rich culture, will continue to set new records on the path of development.

7. When the National Education Day is celebrated every year in India?

- a) 9 November
- b) 10 November
- c) 11 November
- d) 12 November

Answer: c)

Explanation: Central Government declared November 11, the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, as National Education Day. Abul Kalam Azad was a freedom fighter, eminent educationist and the first Union Minister of Education.

8. When the United Nations Day is celebrated every year?

- a) 23rd October
- b) 24th October
- c) 25th October
- d) 26th October

Answer: b)

Explanation: The United Nations (UN) Day is observed across the world on 24 October. The Day celebrates everything that the UN represents and has achieved since its establishment in 1945. UN Day 2018 marks the 73rd anniversary of the UN Charter.

Awards and Honors



9. Which Indian project won the 2018 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Award in 'Award of Distinction' category?

- a) LAMO Centre of Ladakh
- b) University of Mumbai Library Building
- c) Ruttonjee Muljee Jetha Fountain
- d) Rajabai Clock Tower

Answer: a)

Explanation: The LAMO Centre of Ladakh won the 2018 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation on November 9, 2018. This aristocratic house was restored from a state of partial ruin. Apart from Ladakh's centre, two Mumbai projects fetched Honourable Mention under the 2018 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards.

10. 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".

11. 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) Tu Youyou and Satoshi Omura

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".

12. Name the Indians who won the 2018 Ramon Magsaysay Award?

a) Nileema Mishra and Arvind Kejriwal

b) Sanjiv Chaturvedi and Deep Joshi

c) Bharat Vatwani and Sonam Wangchuk

d) Harish Hande and Kulandei Francis

Answer: c)

Explanation: Two Indians, namely, Bharat Vatwani and Sonam Wangchuk on July 26, 2018 won the 2018 Ramon Magsaysay Award, the Asian version of the Nobel Prize. Bharat Vatwani is a psychiatrist who works for the mentally-ill street persons, while, Sonam Wangchuk works to harness science and culture creatively for economic progress that has improved the lives of the Ladakhi youth.

Current Affairs – International



13. Which country launched the World's First Sovereign Blue Bond?

a) Brunei

b) Romania

c) Italy

d) Seychelles

Answer: d)

Explanation: The Republic of Seychelles launched the world's first sovereign blue bond—a pioneering financial instrument designed to support sustainable marine and fisheries projects.

14. On August 6, 2018, Japan marked the 73rd anniversary atomic bombing on this city.

a) Nagasaki

b) Fukushima

c) Osaka

d) Hiroshima

Answer: d)

Explanation: Japan marked the 73rd anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima on August 6, 2018. Tens of thousands of people gathered to honour the victims at an annual memorial ceremony held in the city. They included representatives from 85 countries, as well as survivors of the bombing.

15. Which party emerged out to be as the single largest party as per the Pakistan Elections Results 2018?

a) Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf

b) Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz

c) Pakistan Peoples party

d) Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal Pakistan

Answer: a)

Explanation: According to the Pakistan Elections results 2018 announced by the Election Commission of Pakistan on July 29, 2018, Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) has emerged as the single largest party in the National Assembly after the Pakistan Elections 2018. The PTI has bagged a total of 116 seats.

16. Which city hosted the BRICS Summit 2018?

a) New Delhi

b) Johannesburg

c) Beijing

d) Moscow

Answer: b)

Explanation: The 10th edition of BRICS Summit began in Johannesburg, South Africa on July 25 with the theme- 'BRICS in Africa: Collaboration for inclusive growth and shared prosperity in the 4th Industrial Revolution'.

Attended by all the BRICS leaders, the BRICS Summit 2018 will be held from July 25 to July 27.

17. Who was elected as President of Turkey in the presidential election in 2018?

- a) Abdullah Gul
- b) Tughut ojal
- c) Recep Tayyip Erdogan
- d) Muharrem Ince

Answer: c)

Explanation: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was declared winner of landmark presidential election held on June 24, 2018. With 99% of votes counted, Erdogan had won a 52.54% share of the national vote, while the opposition CHP party's candidate, Muharrem Ince, was on 30.68%.

18. Which city is hosting Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Forum 2018?

- a) Tehran
- b) Baghdad
- c) Riyadh
- d) Vienna

Answer: d)

Explanation: The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Forum 2018 began in Vienna, Austria on June 20, 2018. India's Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan attended the forum.

19. Which country recently withdrew from the United Nations Human Rights Council?

- a) Israel
- b) United States
- c) South Korea
- d) Iran

Answer: b)

Explanation: On June 19, the United States withdrew from the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and condemned its bias against Israel. The announcement came after the top UN human rights official criticised Washington for separating migrant children from their parents who are seeking asylum after crossing into the country from Mexico.

20. Where was the 17th ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council Meeting held?

- a) Singapore
- b) India
- c) Japan
- d) Russia

Answer: a)

Explanation: The 17th ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Council Meeting was held in Singapore as part of the 33rd ASEAN Summit and Related Summit Meetings. Apart from taking stock of regional economic integration efforts during the year, it also reiterated ASEAN's commitment to free and open trade.

21. The world's largest airport has been unveiled in which country?

- a) India
- b) US
- c) Turkey
- d) Japan

Answer: c)

Explanation: The world's largest airport was unveiled by Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan outside Istanbul. The new \$11.7 billion will be one of the world's busiest, though it will not be fully operational until January. The name of the new airport will be Istanbul Airport. The airport uses mobile applications and artificial intelligence for customers, is energy efficient and boasts of a high-tech security system.

22. 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.

23. 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.

24. Which country opened the world's longest sea-crossing bridge?

- a) Japa
- b) China
- c) South Korea
- d) Australia

Answer: b)

Explanation: China officially opened the world's longest sea-crossing bridge, which connects the Chinese city of Zhuhai to the semi-autonomous regions of Hong Kong and Macau. It includes an undersea tunnel allowing ships to pass through the Pearl River delta, the heart of China's manufacturing sector.

25. The Green Climate Fund has approved how much fund to assist poor countries to tackle climate change?

- a) \$1.5 billion
- b) \$2 billion
- c) \$3 billion
- d) \$1 billion

Answer: d)

Explanation: The UN-backed Green Climate Fund has approved more than \$1 billion for 19 new projects to help developing countries tackle climate change. The green fund, considered a key vehicle for climate-related development programs, was originally meant to receive over \$10 billion from rich countries by 2018.



26. What was India's rank in the Global Peace Index 2018?

- a) 136th
- b) 138th
- c) 149th
- d) 158th

Answer: a)

Explanation: India was ranked 136th among 163 countries in Global Peace Index 2018 due to a reduction in the level of violent crime driven by increased law enforcement. The Index is prepared by Sydney-based international think-tank Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP).

27. Who was appointed as Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)?

- a) G Satheesh Reddy
- b) Sanjay Mitra
- c) Jitendra Singh
- d) K Sivan Ramakrishnan

Answer: a)

Explanation: Renowned aerospace scientist Dr G Satheesh Reddy, who is scientific adviser to the Defence minister, was appointed as the Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for a period of two years. He will also be secretary in the Department of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D) for the same period.

28. Which state is going to rename its new capital as Atal Nagar?

- a) Chhattisgarh
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: a)

Explanation: The Chhattisgarh government has decided to rename the state's new capital city Naya Raipur as Atal Nagar in the memory of former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The state has also decided to develop an Atal Memorial in an area of five acres at the state's new capital.

29. Who was appointed as the first Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Reserve Bank of India?

a) Narayan Murthy

b) Rajiv Agarwal

c) Parijaat Dua

d) Sudha Balakrishnan

Answer: d)

Explanation: Sudha Balakrishnan was appointed as the first Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Balakrishnan, a chartered accountant, was until recently a vice-president at the NSDL, India's first and largest depository.

30. Which Indian state has announced a ban on fish imports for 6 months?

a) Maharashtra

b) Goa

c) Odisha

d) West Bengal

Answer: b)

Explanation: The Goa government on November 10, 2018 announced a ban on import of fish into the state for six months. The move comes against the backdrop of a scare in the coastal state that formalin, a potential cancer-causing chemical, was being used to preserve fish.

31. India's first Justice City will come up in which of the following cities?

a) Jaipur

b) Kochi

c) New Delhi

d) Amaravati

Answer: d)

Explanation: The Andhra Pradesh government is building a world-class and India's first 'Justice City' within its new capital Amaravati with the vision to provide a state-of-the-art ecosystem built on latest technology for supporting the judicial system in the state. The Justice City will

comprise integrated judicial hub spread across 3,309 acres with an estimated population of 2.5 lacs.

32. The foundation stone of India's largest dry dock will be laid at which shipyard?

- a) Cochin Shipyard
- b) Mumbai Shipyard
- c) Visakhapatnam Shipyard
- d) Kolkata Shipyard

Answer: a)

Explanation: The foundation stone for India's largest Dry Dock will be laid by Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari and Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at Cochin Shipyard in Kerala on October 30, 2018. The Dry Dock will give a major boost to the "Make in India" initiative under Sagarmala and raise India's share in global shipbuilding to 2 percent. India currently occupies 0.66 per cent share in global shipbuilding market.

33. Satish Kumar Gupta has been appointed as the new CEO and MD of which payments bank?

- a) Fino Payments Bank
- b) India Post Post Payments Bank
- c) Airtel Payments Bank
- d) Paytm Payments Bank

Answer: d)

Explanation: The Paytm Payments Bank announced on October 24, 2018 that it has appointed Satish Kumar Gupta as its new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer. Gupta would be succeeding Renu Satti, who stepped down from her position to head the bank's new retail segment.

34. Which country conducted its first trilateral meeting with India and Iran on Chabahar port on October 23?

- a) Pakistan
- b) Afghanistan
- c) China
- d) Israel

Answer: b)

Explanation: The first trilateral meeting between India, Afghanistan and Iran of the Coordination Council of the Chabahar agreement took place on October 23, 2018 in Tehran. Detailed discussions were held between the three sides on full operationalisation of the trilateral agreement for international transit and transport through Chabahar Port.

35. The Union Cabinet has approved the signing of an extradition treaty between India and which nation?

- a) Maldives
- b) Fiji
- c) Malawi
- d) Panama

Answer: c)

Explanation: The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the signing and ratification of the extradition treaty between India and Malawi. The treaty would provide a legal framework for seeking extradition of terrorists, economic offenders and other criminals from and to Malawi.

International & National Organizations



36. Which Indian council has signed two pacts with Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan to promote environmental awareness?

- a) ICFRE
- b) CSE
- c) CEEW
- d) NPC

Answer: a)

Explanation: The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS). The agreements were signed to launch 'Prakriti' programme that aims to promote environmental awareness among the students.

37. Which organisation recently launched world-first blockchain bond?

- a) International Monetary Fund
- b) United Nations
- c) World Bank
- d) European Union

Answer: c)

Explanation: The World Bank on August 23, 2018 launched 'bond-i' (Blockchain Operated New Debt Instrument), the world's first bond to be created, allocated, transferred and managed by using distributed ledger technology. This two-year bond successfully raised 110 million Australian dollars (USD 80.48 million).

38. Which organisation publishes the Ease of Doing Business Index every year?

- a) United Nations
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) World Bank
- d) International Monetary Fund

Answer: c)

Explanation: The World Bank on October 31, 2018 released the Doing Business Report 2019 titled as 'Doing Business 2019: Training for Reform', assessing and ranking countries on the basis of ease of doing business in the year 2018. As per the 2019 Report, India jumped 23 places on the Ease of Doing Business Index to 77th rank, up from 100th rank last year.

39. Kazakhstan is a part of which of the following continental confederations recognized by FIFA?

- a) Asian Football Confederation
- b) Confederation Africaine de Football
- c) Union of European Football Associations
- d) None of them

Answer: c)

Explanation: Union of European Football Associations

40. The 'Invest India' initiative of the Union Government won the top Investment Promotion Award of which organisation?

- a) United Nations
- b) World Trade Organisation

c) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion

d) World Bank

Answer: a)

Explanation: The 'Invest India' initiative of the Union Government on October 22, 2018 won the top United Nations Investment Promotion Award in recognition of its efforts to boost investments in the renewable energy sector in India. Apart from India, agencies from Bahrain, Lesotho and South Africa also won the top honours.

Science & Technology – Inventions & Discoveries



41. 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.

42. ISRO launched communication satellite GSAT 29 aboard which launch vehicle?

a) GSLV Mk III

b) GSLV 2

c) PSLV III

d) ASLV IV

Answer: a)

Explanation: The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on November 14, 2018 successfully launched communication satellite GSAT-29 aboard its heavy-lift Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III (GSLV MkIII-D2).

43. Which branch of IIT has developed India's first microprocessor 'Shakti'?

- a) IIT Delhi
- b) IIT Kharagpur
- c) IIT Roorkee
- d) IIT Madras

Answer: d)

Explanation: India's first indigenous microprocessor, 'Shakti', has been designed by the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) to reduce reliance on imported microprocessors in communication and defence sectors.

44. Which space probe of NASA will get retired from its service soon?

- a) Juno
- b) Project Mercury
- c) Hubble
- d) Kepler

Answer: d)

Explanation: NASA has announced that Kepler Space Telescope will be retired after 9 years of its service. Kepler was NASA's first planet hunting mission and it discovered 2600 planets since 2009. The Kepler's camera measured changes in the brightness of 150,000 stars in one patch of sky to identify alien planets, including 10 planets that could potentially be inhabited by humans.

45. A team of archaeologists have discovered Bronze Age ruins in which nation?

- a) China
- b) India
- c) Indonesia
- d) Pakistan

Answer: a)

Explanation: A team of archaeologists revealed on October 28, 2018 that they have unearthed Bronze Age ruins including the remains of ancient houses and ash pits along with animal bones, bronze ware and stone tools in China's Jilin province.



46. Who has become the first Indian woman to win a gold medal in shooting at the Asian Games?

- a) Manu Baker
- b) Rahi Sarnobat
- c) Anjum Moudgil
- d) Heena Sidhu

Answer: b)

Explanation: The Day 4 of Asian Games 2018 took off for India with shooter Rahi Sarnobat winning the 4th gold in the finals of women's 25m pistol event. With the feat, she has become the first Indian woman to win a gold medal in shooting at the Asian Games.

47. Indian weightlifter Punam Yadav has won gold in which women's weightlifting category at CWG 2018?

- a) 85kg
- b) 49kg
- c) 69kg
- d) 54kg

Answer: c)

Explanation: Punam Yadav on April 8, 2018 won India's fifth gold medal in the women's 69kg weightlifting event. Punam lifted a total of 222kg to beat England's Sarah Davies, her closest competitor, to take her second medal at the Commonwealth Games. She had won bronze at the 2014 Glasgow Games.

48. Which Indian wrestler was ranked world No. 1 rank in 65 Kg category?

- a) Sushil Kumar

- b) Pawan Kumar
- c) Yogeshwar Dutt
- d) Bajrang Punia

Answer: d)

Explanation: Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia recently touched a new high in his career by achieving the World number one rank in the 65kg category. He was placed atop the ranking table with 96 points in the United World Wrestling (UWW) list.

49. Which Indian woman wrestler won the bronze medal in the 57kg freestyle category at the 2018 World Championships, held in Budapest?

- a) Babita Kumar
- b) Vinesh Phogat
- c) Sakshi Malik
- d) Pooja Dhanda

Answer: d)

Explanation: Pooja Dhanda joined the elite Indian company of women grapplers after defeating Grace Bullen of Norway 10-7 in the 57kg Freestyle category to clinch the bronze medal at the World Championships in Budapest on October 25, 2018. Before Pooja, only three Indian women grapplers Alka Tomar in 2006, Geeta Phogat and Babita Phogat in 2012 had won a bronze medal each at the World Championships tournament.

50. Which among the following cricketers has become the fastest batsman to reach 10000 ODI runs?

- a) Ross Taylor
- b) Quinton de Kock
- c) Virat Kohli
- d) Kane Williamson

Answer: c)

Explanation: Virat Kohli has become the fastest batsman to score 10,000 runs in one-day internationals, reaching the milestone in just 205 innings. With the feat, he surpassed the record held by Sachin Tendulkar, who had achieved the feat in 259 innings.