

# COMPETITION POWER



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Your Guide to Government Jobs & All other Competitive Exams



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**GRAMMY AWARDS**



Roger Federer won  
the Australian Open 2018



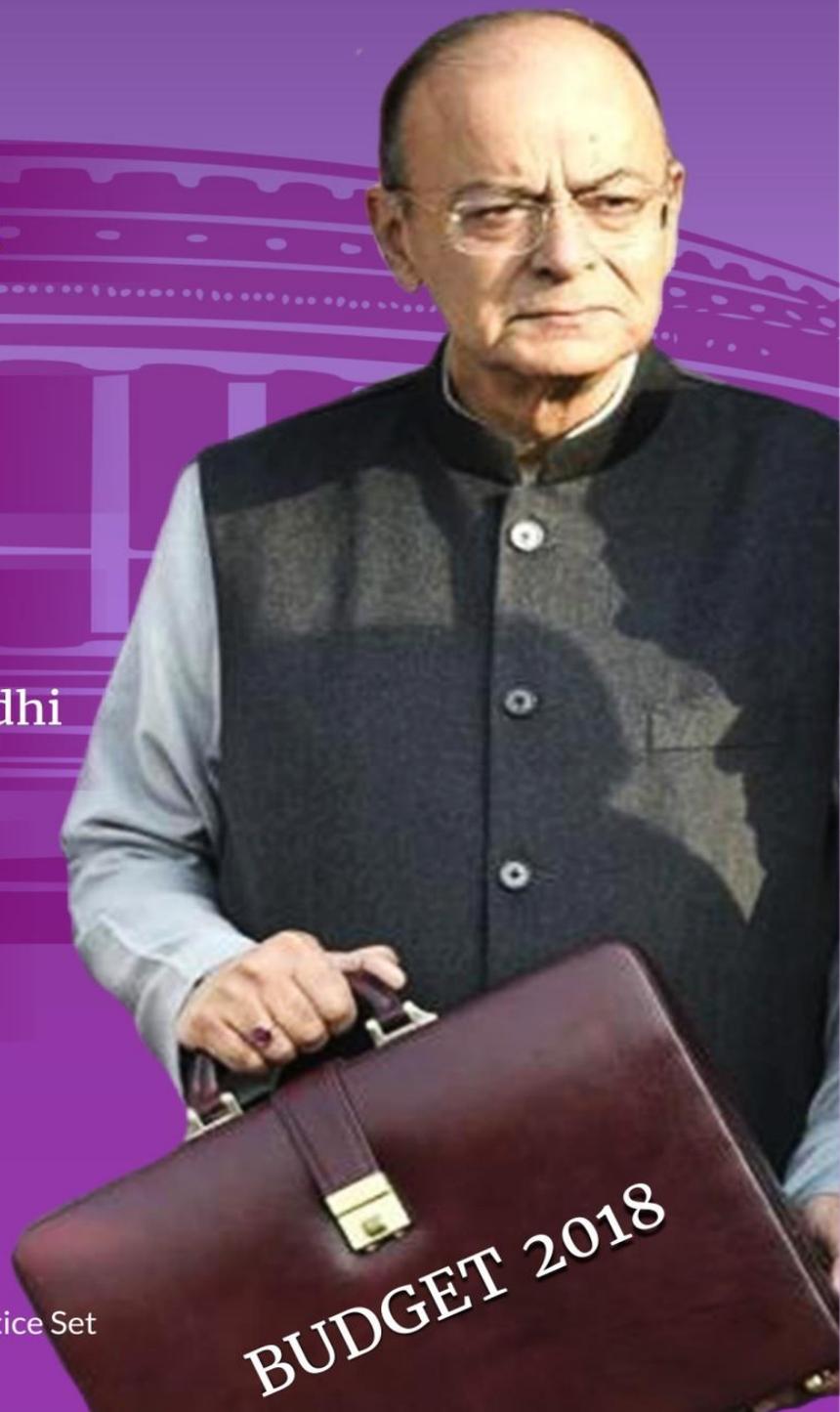
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This Edition Includes:

- SSC CHSL 2018 : Practice Set
- SSC CGL Tier-I : Previous Year Mock Paper
- Practice Set for Syndicate Bank PO 2018 Exam
- SBI Junior Associates | Clerk Prelims 2018 : Practice Set
- IBPS PO Prelims 2018 : Practice Set



**BUDGET 2018**

## From the Editor's Desk

Dear Readers,

The inculcation of passion for government job examinations amongst the students is one of the major objectives set by Adda247. **Competition Power** has been a step towards it and it has served as a great platform to provide the students with the best of the study material for all sorts of government jobs and encourage them to make enhancements in their preparations for government jobs through the best ways possible.

The new edition of **Competition Power Magazine** is now your hands. The issue brings the highlights of the Current Affairs of December 2017 and January 2018 in detail under the name, "**Newsmakers Of The Month**". This is followed by the one-liners of December 2017 under the title, "**Current Affairs Zinger**".

Bearing in mind the exorbitantly changing pattern of the competitive examinations, this magazine assembles the exhaustive study material for the upcoming government job examinations that provide the information of great interest to our varied readership.

In this issue, we also carry the **Practice Sets and Mock Papers for SSC CHSL, SBI Clerk Prelims, IBPS PO Prelims & Syndicate Bank PO** so as our readers can make a headway in their career with the government jobs they are interested in, by thoroughly practicing the papers that simulate the real examinations. Next, we have some important topics of Reasoning, English, Computers, and Reasoning so that you have them all grasped for the upcoming competitive examinations.

As the editor of Competition Power, I anticipate that this issue would be of immense value and will be definitely useful to our readers who aspire to be a government job employee in a short run. I would also like to thank the contributors for their efforts and our readers continue to have faith in us.

Your support and presence are indicative of the fact that we have made steps in the right direction. I will be looking forward to your valuable feedback and suggestions.

With Best Wishes and Season's Greetings,  
**Team Competition Power !!**

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**Chief Editor:** Gopal Anand

**Team:** Saurabh, Aniket, Neeraj, Veer,  
Kamal, Swati & Team

**Circulation & Sales Manager:** Rajat Mehra  
Contact No: 8750044896

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## Motivational : KEEP STRIVING FOR YOUR GOALS

Dear students, new opportunities in the year 2018 have already started arriving by now. In the competitive examinations of the year 2017, many of you would have given a performance that would be of first water while others might have given a performance that they wouldn't be much satisfied with. **While some of you came off with flying colors, many others had to face failures as well. Whatever be the case, you should always keep striving for more. If you couldn't qualify for any competitive exam in the previous year, you need to work harder in order to bring it off this year.** And, if you have already been placed somewhere in a public sector bank, then, you should start preparing for internal banking examinations for promotions faster than the usual process.

For the ones who couldn't make the grade in any of the competitive examinations in the previous year, there exist limitless opportunities in the banking industry that are yet to come this year. You can get a second bite at the cherry in IBPS PO and Clerk Examinations, SBI PO/Clerk Examinations, IBPS SO, IBPS RRB, Manipal Academy, and Various Examinations conducted by Insurance Companies like LIC, GIC, OICL, etc. And the ones who have already been placed in some or the other public sector banks, can go for special certifications through JAIIB and CAIIB, so as to get easier and faster internal promotions.

A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity and an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty. We all dream of a bright future. Dreaming of a brighter future is good but it's also important not to think you can create that complete painting today or tomorrow. **Vital achievements are rarely accomplished immediately. We're all bound to encounter resistance in one aspect of life or another, the difference is how accepting one is of their shortcomings. All that you need to do is to work for your dreams.**

This new year brings positive hopes and to live your dreams, you guys must grow yourself into a person who doesn't stop anywhere. **Whenever you feel distracted, dream about the sybaritic life lying ahead of your success, it will definitely motivate you and let you work hard with full allegiance and devotion.** Always remember, no matter how many mistakes you make or how slow you progress, you are still way ahead of everyone who isn't trying. **Keep working hard and everything will come up roses in the end.**

*All the best!!*

## A Union Budget 2018-19: A Complete Analysis

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley presents the Union Budget 2018-19 on 1st February 2018. In his speech he said that, "When our government took over, India was part of "fragile five," but now are now the fastest growing economy of the world. He also said that Indian economy is a \$2.5 trillion economy. India is expected to become the fifth largest economy very soon.

### Agriculture and Rural Economy

- ✚ MSP to increase at least 1.5 times that of production cost.
- ✚ Minimum Support Price (MSP) of all crops shall increase to at least 1.5 times that of the production cost.
- ✚ The government will set up a fund of Rs 2,000 crore for developing agricultural markets.
- ✚ Our focus is on productive and gainful on-farm and non-farm employment for farmers and landless families, says Jaitley.
- ✚ MSP for Kharif cost will be 1.5 times the cost of production.
- ✚ As per the FM, APMCs will be linked with ENAM.
- ✚ The government will develop 22,000 Gramin agricultural markets.
- ✚ The cluster-model approach will be adopted for agricultural production.
- ✚ Allocation in food production sector doubled to Rs 1400 crore.
- ✚ Minimum Support Price shall be increased by 1.5 times. Operation Green will be launched for agriculture and the Minister allocates Rs500 crore for this.
- ✚ Agricultural corpus worth Rs 2000 crore will be set up. 470 APMCs have been connected to eNAM network, the rest to be connected by March 2018.
- ✚ A fund for the fishery, aquaculture development and animal husbandry will be set up with a total corpus to be Rs 10,000 crore. We will also allocate Rs 1290 crore for a bamboo mission, as it is green gold.
- ✚ In all, we are providing Rs 10 lakh crore to Rs 11 lakh crore as credit for agricultural activities.
- ✚ Jaitley proposes to increase the target of providing free LPG connections to 8 crore to poor women.
- ✚ Ujjwala Yojana, the free LPG connection scheme expanded to eight crore households.
- ✚ Six crore toilets have been built already, and in the next year, two crore additional toilets will be constructed.
- ✚ The government will provide 4 crore electricity connections to the poor under Saubhagya Yojana.
- ✚ Kisan credit card to be extended to fisheries, animal husbandry farmers.
- ✚ The government will establish a dedicated affordable housing fund.
- ✚ Loans to self-help groups will increase to Rs75,000 crore.
- ✚ Govt. allocated Rs5,750 crore to National Livelihood Mission and Rs2,600 crore to the groundwater irrigation scheme.

### Education, Health and Social Protection

- ✚ Outlay on health, education and social protection will be 1.38 lakh crore.
- ✚ By 2022, every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal people will have 'Ekalavya' school at par with Navodaya Vidyalas.
- ✚ A major initiative named Revitalising Infrastructure and Systems in Education (RISE) to be launched by 2022 with a total investment of Rs.1,00,000 crore in next four years.
- ✚ Government will launch the Prime Minister's Research Fellows (PMRF) Scheme this year.
- ✚ Allocation on National Social Assistance Programme this year has been kept at Rs. 9975 crore.
- ✚ Govt. is launching a new national health protection scheme – Rashtriya Samaj Beema Yojana. This will have 50 crore beneficiaries and 10 crore families will get 5 lakh per year for their families to cover secondary and tertiary hospital expenses. This is the world's largest government-funded healthcare program.
- ✚ A Rs 600 crore corpus is being set up to help Tuberculosis patients. This will build a new India in 2022 and enhance productivity and will also generate lakhs of jobs for women.
- ✚ PM Jeevan Beema Yojana benefitted more than 2 crore families.
- ✚ Jan Dhan Yojana will be extended to all 60 crore bank accounts.
- ✚ Rs 1200 crores allocated for the National Health Policy, 2017, which with 1.5 lakh Health and Wellness Centres will bring health care system closer to the homes of people.
- ✚ Government will be setting up 24 new Government Medical Colleges and Hospitals.
- ✚ All 4465 Ganga Grams – villages on the bank of river - have been declared open defecation free.

### Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs) and Employment

- Rs. 3794 crores provided for giving credit support, capital and interest subsidy and for innovations.
- Target of Rs.3 lakh crore for lending under MUDRA for 2018-19.

### Employment Generation

- Finance Minister cited an independent study as showing that 70 lakh formal jobs will be created this year.
- Government will contribute 12% of the wages of the new employees in the EPF for all the sectors for next three years.
- An outlay of Rs.7148 crore for the textile sector in 2018-19.
- EPF contribution has been reduced to 8% for the first 3 years of employment and 12% government contribution to EPF in sectors employing a large number of people, however, there will be no changes in employer contribution.

### Infrastructure and Financial Sector Development

- Increase of budgetary allocation on infrastructure for 2018-19 to Rs.5.97 lakh crore
- Under the Bharatmala Pariyojana, about 35000 kms road construction in Phase-I at an estimated cost of Rs.5,35,000 crore has been approved.

### Railways

- Railways Capital Expenditure for the year 2018-19 has been pegged at Rs.1,48,528 crore.
- 600 railway stations to be redeveloped.
- Over 3600 km railway track renovation targeted in the current year.
- In Railways, 18,000 kms of doubling of tracks would eliminate capacity constraints.
- We are moving towards optimum electrification of the railway. Over 3,600 km of track renewal is being targeted in 2018-19.
- 150 km additional suburban railway network at the cost of Rs. 40,000 cr.
- Rs 11,000 crore is being allocated for Mumbai Suburban Railways.
- Proposal for railway university in Vadodara.
- Rs. 17,000 crore is being set aside for Bengaluru Metro.
- Govt. to eliminate over 4,267 unmanned level crossings in the next two years.
- All railway stations and trains will have WiFi and 150 kilometres of additional suburban corridors in being planned.

### Air Transport

- Airport capacity to be hiked to handle 1 billion trips per year.
- UDAN will connect 56 unserved airports and 36 unserved heliports.
- As per the FM, The Airport Authority of India has 124 airports.

### Finance & Digital Economy

- Government will establish a unified authority for regulating all financial services in International Finance Service Centre (IFSCs) in India.
- NITI Aayog will initiate a national program to direct efforts in artificial intelligence.
- Department of Science & Technology will launch a Mission on Cyber Physical Systems
- Allocation on Digital India programme increased to Rs 3073 crore in 2018-19
- Proposed to set up five lakh wi-fi hotspots to provide net connectivity to five crore rural citizens.
- Rs. 10000 crores allocated in 2018-19 for creation and augmentation of Telecom infrastructure.

### Disinvestment

- Finance Minister announced that 2017-18 disinvestment target of Rs. 72,500 crores has been exceeded and expected receipts of Rs.1,00,000 crore.
- Disinvestment target of Rs. 80,000 crores for 2018-19.
- Three Public Sector Insurance companies- National Insurance Co. Ltd., United India Assurance Co. Ltd., and Oriental India insurance Co. Ltd., will be merged into a single insurance entity.
- A comprehensive Gold Policy will be formulated to develop gold as an asset class
- To celebrate the 150 Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi an amount of Rs.150 crore set aside for the activities leading to the

commemoration programme.

#### Fiscal Management, Direct & Indirect Taxes

- ✚ Budget Revised Estimates for expenditure in 2017-18 are Rs.21.57 lakh crore (net of GST compensation transfers to the States) as against the Budget Estimates of Rs.21.47 lakh crore.
- ✚ FM projected a Fiscal Deficit of 3.3% of GDP for the year 2018-19.
- ✚ Revised Fiscal Deficit estimates for 2017-18 were put at Rs. 5.95 lakh crore at 3.5% of GDP.
- ✚ Proposed acceptance of key recommendations of the Fiscal Reform and Budget Management Committee to bring down Central Government's Debt to GDP ratio to 40%.
- ✚ Growth of direct taxes in financial year 2016-17 was 12.6 percent, and for financial year 2017-18 (upto 15th Jan, 2018) is 18.7 percent. Buoyancy in personal income tax for financial year 2017-18 (RE) is 2.11.
- ✚ Number of Effective Tax Payers has increased from 6.47 crore at the beginning of Financial year 2014-15 to 8.27 crore at the end of 2016-17.
- ✚ Proposed 100 percent deduction to companies registered as Farmer Producer Companies with an annual turnover upto Rs. 100 crores on profit derived from such activities, for a period of five years from financial year 2018-19.
- ✚ Payments exceeding Rs. 10,000 in cash made by trusts and institutions shall be disallowed and would be subject to tax.
- ✚ Long Term Capital Gains exceeding Rs. 1 lakh to be taxed at the rate of 10 percent, without allowing any indexation benefit.
- ✚ Proposed to introduce a tax on distributed income by equity oriented mutual funds at the rate of 10 percent
- ✚ Proposed to increase the cess on personal income tax and corporation tax to 4 percent from the present 3 percent. It will be called the "Health and Education Cess".
- ✚ Increase customs duty on mobile phones from 15 percent to 20 percent, on some of their parts and accessories to 15 percent and on certain parts of televisions to 15 percent.
- ✚ Customs duty is proposed to be reduced on raw cashew from 5 percent to 2.5 percent, to help the cashew processing industry.
- ✚ Proposed to change the name of the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) to the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- ✚ Deduction of 30 percent on emoluments paid to new employees Under Section 80-JJAA to be relaxed to 150 days for footwear and leather industry, to create more employment.
- ✚ No adjustment in respect of transactions in immovable property where Circle Rate value does not exceed 5 percent of consideration.
- ✚ Standard Deduction of Rs. 40,000 in place of present exemption for transport allowance and reimbursement of miscellaneous medical expenses. 2.5 crore salaried employees and pensioners to benefit.
- ✚ Introduce a tax on distributed income by equity oriented mutual fund at the rate of 10%.

#### Relief to Senior Citizens proposed in the Budget

- ✚ Exemption of interest income on deposits with banks and post offices to be increased from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 50,000.
- ✚ TDS not required to be deducted under section 194A. Benefit also available for interest from all fixed deposit schemes and recurring deposit schemes.
- ✚ Hike in deduction limit for health insurance premium and/ or medical expenditure from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 50,000 under section 80D.
- ✚ Increase in deduction limit for medical expenditure for certain critical illness from Rs. 60,000 (in case of senior citizens) and from Rs. 80,000 (in case of very senior citizens) to Rs. 1 lakh for all senior citizens, under section 80DDB.
- ✚ Proposed to extend Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana up to March, 2020. Current investment limit proposed to be increased to Rs. 15 lakhs from the existing limit of Rs. 7.5 lakh per senior citizen.

#### Other Important Highlights from the Budget

- ✚ To make the villages open defecation free and improving the lives of villagers, FM announced the launch of Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBAR-DHAN).
- ✚ 2600 crore allocated under Prime Minister Krishi Sinchai Yojna to provide assured irrigation in 96 deprived irrigation districts
- ✚ Allocation of Rs 1,34,572 crore has been made for the transport sector while the efforts to develop disaster resilient infrastructure is being given a push with an allocation of Rs. 60 crores in 2018-19.
- ✚ Total earmarked allocation for SCs in 279 programmes increased to Rs. 56,619 crores & for STs in 305 programmes to Rs. 39,135 crores for 2018-19.
- ✚ Ten prominent sites to be developed as Iconic tourist destinations.

- ✚ Under the Smart City mission, 99 cities selected with the outlay of Rs. 2.04 lakh crores.
- ✚ The government announced AMRUT program to focus on water supply to all households in 500 cities. Water supply contracts for 494 projects worth 19,428 crores will be awarded.
- ✚ Government does not consider cryptocurrency as legal tender and will work towards eliminating illicit transactions going on through crypto assets.
- ✚ 24 Public Sector Units to be divested.
- ✚ The government will involve a scheme to assign every enterprise a unique ID just like Aadhaar.
- ✚ The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management will come up with debt Exchange Traded Fund.
- ✚ National Logistics Portal as a single online window will link all stakeholders, to be developed by Department of Commerce.
- ✚ Salaries of President, VP and Governors will be increased. Rs. 5 lakhs for President, Rs 4.0 lakh for VP and Rs 3.5 lakh for governors. Salaries of Members of Parliament will also be raised.
- ✚ A new law will be introduced that will automatically revise MPs' emoluments every five years, indexed to inflation.
- ✚ Government to set up two industrial defence industrial development corridors in 2018-19.

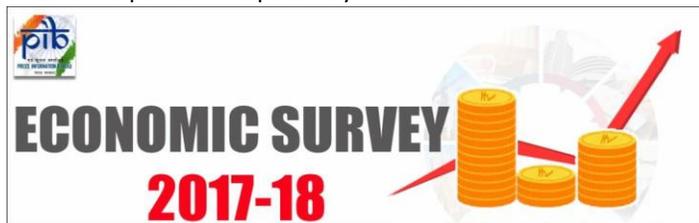
Estimates 1.38 trillion rupees expenditure on health, education and social security. Railway capital expenditure set at 1.49 trillion rupees for 2018/19.

## A Complete Analysis on the Economic Survey 2017-18

Economic Survey is an annual document of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, and reviews the developments in the Indian economy over the previous 12 months, summarises the performance on major development programs, and highlights the policy initiatives of the government and the prospects of the economy in the short to medium term.

Economic Survey 2017-18 tabled in Parliament on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018 by the Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Shri Arun Jaitley.

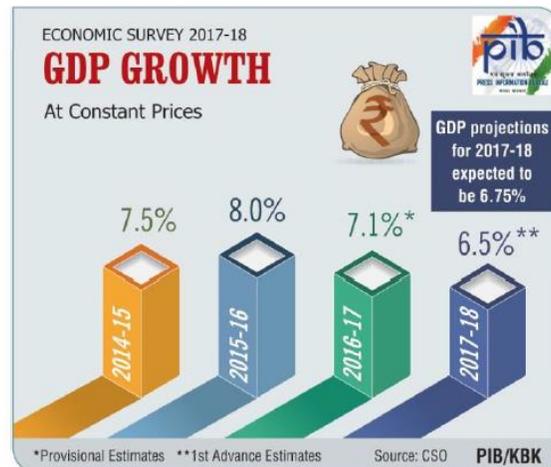
1. The Economic Survey 2017-18 was in pink colour to highlight the gender issues.
2. As per the Economic Survey, a series of major reforms undertaken over the past year will allow real GDP growth to reach 6.75 percent this fiscal and will rise to 7.0 to 7.5 percent in 2018-19.
3. The Gross Value Added (GVA) at constant basic prices is expected to grow at the rate of 6.1 per cent in 2017-18 as compared to 6.6 per cent in 2016-17. Agriculture, industry and services sectors are expected to grow at the rate of 2.1 per cent, 4.4 per cent, and 8.3 per cent respectively in 2017-18.



**ECONOMIC SURVEY  
2017-18**

**Ten New Facts on the Indian Economy**

- Large increase in registered indirect and direct taxpayers
- Formal non-agricultural payroll much greater than believed
- States' prosperity is positively correlated with their international and inter-state trade
- India's firm export structure is substantially more egalitarian than in other large countries
- Clothing incentive package boosted exports of readymade garments
- Indian parents continue to have children until they get the desired number of sons
- Substantial avoidable litigation in tax arena which government action could reduce
- To re-ignite growth, raising investment is more important than raising saving
- Direct tax collections by Indian states and local governments are significantly lower than those of their counterparts in other federal countries
- Extreme weather adversely impacts agricultural yields



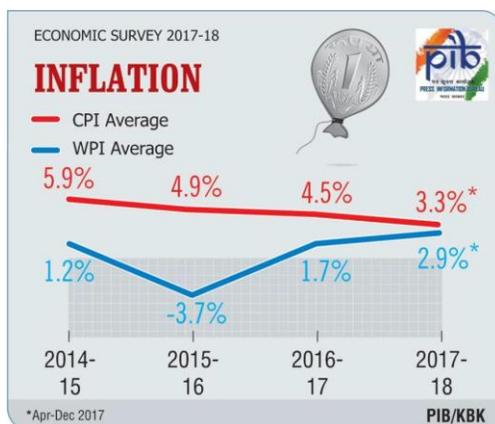
4. Economic Survey draws attention to 10 new Economic facts on Indian Economy. Goods and Services Tax (GST) has given a new perspective of the Indian economy and new data has emerged. There has been a fifty percent increase in the number of indirect taxpayers.

**ECONOMIC SURVEY 2017-18**

**Information on GST yields Exciting Findings**

- 50% increase in number of indirect taxpayers
- Large increase in voluntary registrations under GST
- Distribution of GST base among states closely linked to size of their economies
- Strong correlation between export performance and states' standard of living
- India's largest firms account for a much smaller share of exports than in other comparable countries
- India's formal sector is substantially greater than currently believed

5. As per the survey, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Telangana account for 70% of India's exports. India's internal trade in goods and services is 60 percent of GDP.
6. Over the last 10-15 years, India's performance improved on 14 out of 17 indicators of women's agency, attitudes, and outcomes.
7. The Gross Non-Performing Advances (GNPA) ratio of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) increased from 9.6 percent to 10.2 percent between March 2017 and September 2017. Non-Food Credit (NFC) grew at 8.85 percent Y-o-Y in November 2017 as compared to 4.75 per cent in November 2016. Bank credit lending to Services and Personal Loans (PL) segments continue to be the major contributor to overall NFC growth. The IBC mechanism is being used actively to resolve the NPA problem of the banking sector. A major factor behind the effectiveness of the new Code has been the adjudication by the Judiciary.
8. Consumer Price Index(CPI) based headline inflation averaged 3.3 percent during the period which is the lowest in the last six financial years.



9. As per the survey, the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) which is a volume index with base year 2011-12, shows that the industrial output increased by 3.2 percent during April-November 2017-18. As per the survey, the Eight Core Infrastructure Supportive Industries, viz. Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Petroleum, Refinery Products, Fertilizers, Steel, Cement and Electricity attained a cumulative growth of 3.9 percent during April-November, 2017-18. In 2017-18 (April – September), the inflow of total FDI was to the quantum of USD 33.75 billion.

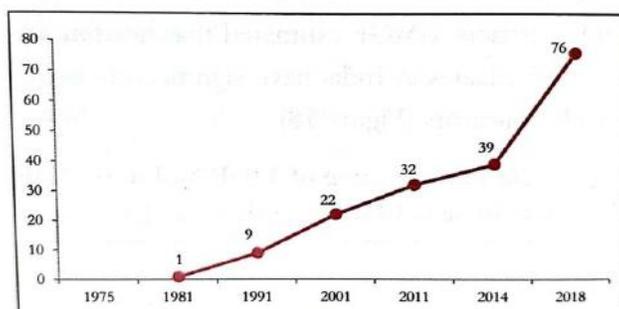


10. Regarding Civil Aviation Sector, the Economic Survey says that in 2017-18 (April - September), domestic airlines carried 57.5 million passengers, showing a growth rate of 16% over the corresponding previous year period, with 10.3 percent domestic cargo handled.
11. Highlighting the initiatives and achievement in the Power Sector, the Survey mentions that All-India installed power generation capacity has reached 3,30,860.6 MW as on 30th November, 2017 and electrification in 15,183 villages has been completed.
12. As per the survey, with growing rural to urban migration by men, there is feminisation of agriculture sector, with increasing number of women in multiple roles as cultivators, entrepreneurs, and labourers. For Recognizing the critical role of women in agriculture, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has declared 15th October of every year as Women Farmer's Day.
13. As per the survey, Rs.20,339 crores has been approved by the Government in 2017-18 to meet various obligations arising from interest subvention being provided to the farmers on short term crop loans, as also loans on post-harvest storages meets an important input requirement of the farmers in the country, especially small and marginal farmers who are the major borrowers.
14. The Survey says that the actual expenditure of Department of Agricultural Research and Education/Indian Council of Agricultural Research has increased from Rs.5393 crore in 2010-11 to Rs.6800 (BE) crore during 2017-18.
15. According to the survey, on 30th November 2017, the share of renewable energy sources was 18 percent in the total installed capacity of electricity.
16. During the period April-September 2017-18, growth in services exports and services imports were robust at 16.2 per cent and 17.4 per cent. To boost services exports, the Government in its mid-term Review of Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020, has increased incentives under Services Exports from India Schemes (SEIS) by 2 per cent, leading to an additional annual incentive of Rs.1,140 crores
17. As per the Survey, out of the 32 States and Union Territories (UTs), in 15 states and UTs, the Services Sector is the dominant sector, contributing more than half of the Gross State Value Added (GSVA). The major services in most of the States are trade, hotels and restaurants, followed by real estate, ownership of dwellings and business services.



18. FDI equity inflows to the services sector grew by 15.0 percent during 2017-18 (April-October). At present, more than 90 per cent of FDI inflows are through automatic route.
19. The Services sector, with a share of 55.2 per cent in India's Gross Value Added (GVA), continued to be the key driver of India's economic growth contributing almost 72.5 per cent of GVA growth in 2017-18, as per the Economic Survey 2017-18. The growth of Service Sector as a whole is expected to be at 8.3 per cent in 2017-18, the growth in Services exports was 16.2 per cent in H1 of 2017-18.
20. Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) during 2017 were 10.2 million, with a growth of 15.6 per cent, while Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs) from tourism were US\$ 27.7 billion, with a growth of 20.8 per cent over 2016.
21. India's gross expenditure on R&D has been at around 1 per cent of GDP. India ranks 60th out of 127 on the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2017, improving from 66th rank in 2016.
22. Foreign exchange earnings of India from export of satellite launch services increased noticeably in 2015-16 and 2016-17 to Rs 394 crore.
23. Expenditure on Social services stands at 6.6 per cent in 2017-18 (BE).
24. The Survey mentions that there has been highest ever budget allocation under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) during 2017-18. About 4.6 crore households were provided employment totaling 177.8 crore person days during 2017-18 as on 14th January, 2018. Out of this, 54 per cent were generated by women, 22 per cent by Schedule Castes and 17 per cent by Schedule Tribes.
25. The Survey takes note of the National Health Policy 2017 which recommended increasing State sector health spending to more than 8 per cent of the States' Government Budget by 2020.
26. As per the survey, With the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) on 2nd October, 2014, the sanitation coverage in rural India has increased substantially from 39 per cent in 2014 to 76 percent in January, 2018. The number of persons defecating in open in rural areas, which were 55 crore in October, 2014 declined to 25 crore in January, 2018. So far, 296 districts and 307,349 villages all over India have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF). Eight states and two Union Territories. i.e., Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Daman & Diu and Chandigarh have been declared as ODF completely.

**Figure 15: Rural Sanitation Coverage in India over the years (per cent)**

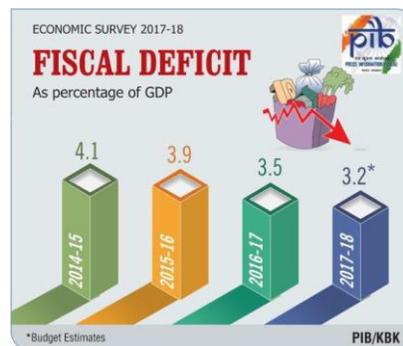


Source: Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation  
(As on 10.01.2018)

27. As per the survey, DEMONITISATION HAS HELPED SHARE OF FINANCIAL SAVING RISE
28. India's foreign exchange reserves reached US\$ 409.4 billion on end-December 2017. Foreign exchange reserves grew by 14.1 percent on a y-o-y basis from end December 2016 (US\$ 358.9 billion) to end December 2017 (US\$ 409.4 billion). Foreign exchange reserves increased further to US\$ 413.8 billion on January 12, 2018.



29. India's CAD stood at US\$7.2 billion (1.2 percent of GDP) in Q2 of 2017-18, narrowing sharply from US\$ 15.0 billion (2.5 percent of GDP) in the preceding quarter.



30. Economic Survey calls for Fiscal Federalism and accountability to avoid low equilibrium trap.

31. As India emerges as one of the world's largest economies, it needs to gradually move from being a net consumer of knowledge to becoming a net producer. This has been emphasized in the Economic Survey.

32. Current account deficit for 2017-18 expected to average between 1.5%-2% of GDP.

33. Personal income-tax collections to rise to 2.3% of GDP in 2017-18

34. As per the survey, India will need \$4.5 trillion investment in infrastructure by 2040.

35. As per the Survey, the policy agenda for next year is support agriculture, privatise Air India, finish bank recapitalization.

## Sucess Story: Bank Exams Preparation Guide : Khavya. G

Brief introduction: I am Khavya.G from Tamilnadu. I started my preparation exactly in June 2016 but initially, I didn't know where should I start from or what are all the sources I need to refer to, etc. But I was determined that I have to clear this exam without joining a coaching center and I knew that I could. So, I started doing self-studies. In IBPS Clerk, I got allotted to the Central Bank of India.

The very first thing about any competitive exam is that you need to believe yourself that one day or the other, you will clear this exam, no matter what circumstances you get to face while preparing for it.

Second thing is that, if there are 300 vacancies, there are going to be 300 different strategies and 300 different pathways. The strategy that I am providing here did wonders for me. As I don't know about your strengths and weaknesses, I advise you to alter this according to you.

Third thing is that you can give your best in the exams but you need to realize that you have no control over the results you going to get. Human mind functions in a way like, when we give an exam today, we usually expect the result the very next week. But if you come under this category, you need to change yourself.

I believe in "Give your best shot but don't expect the same from the results."

### PRELIMS

Prelims exam is based on your right choices of questions, speed, and accuracy. All the candidates can solve all the 100 questions but that is not the case with prelims. Here, you need to pick up those questions which could be solved in minimum time with accuracy.

### QUANT

- 1) Clear Your basics from Adda247 Youtube videos of SBI PO Preparations.
- 2) Go for NCERT Books from class (6 – 12) and pick up those topics which are important for bank exams.
- 3) Solve basic level question from online portals like bankersadda.com or the books you prefer for Quants.
- 4) Once you are able to solve basic questions efficiently, move to the complex ones.
- 5) Learn cubes, squares and percentage tables calculations.
- 6) Use Bankersadda website and Mobile App to solve quizzes.

### REASONING

- 1) Watch youtube videos of Adda247. When you have a doubt in a particular topic, search that on Youtube and clear your basics about the same.
- 2) I just followed the online websites to solve questions from a particular topic.

### ENGLISH

- 1) Enhance your vocabulary.
- 2) Read Editorials and note down the meanings of difficult words.
- 3) Quizzes from online portals, etc.
- 4) Improve your comprehension skills.

### MAINS

Mains itself a special game where it tests your basics understanding of concepts and your ability to perform well under huge stress.

### QUANT

- 1) Try to minimize your calculations. Try to do half the solution in your mind because here, in mains, you face extreme calculation problems.

### REASONING

- 1) Puzzles will play a major role here. So increase your speed in solving puzzles.
- 2) Purchase a test series and do the questions given there. This will serve the purpose.

### ENGLISH

- 1) I do only the quizzes from online portals and practice test series questions.
- If you prepare well for prelims you don't need to worry a lot about mains because just difficulty level of questions rises in mains. If you are strong in basics, you can come out with flying colors in mains exams.

### COMPUTER

- 1) I didn't buy any book for this section. I did all the quizzes on Adda247 Mobile App.

### G.A.

- 1) Banking Awareness –Do read Bankersadda Capsule + Frequently Asked Question section of RBI.
- 2) Current affairs: Read news from different websites daily. If you need, you can make your own notes of current events or else, you can download weekly and monthly capsules from the aforesaid websites.

- 3) Static: While reading current events, go through all the static part of it. For Instance, If you come across a news of some report published by world bank then learn about Headquarters of World Bank, Head/ Chairperson etc.
- 4) Static: Concentrate on Dams, National Parks, Days of a Month, Capital and Currencies, International Organizations and their headquarters etc.

#### ESSAY AND LETTER WRITING

- 1) In the last 1 week, practice typing in your laptop or PC within the time limit allotted to this part.
- 2) At least, you should have practiced 5 letters and 5 essays by the time of examination. You can choose the topics from Bankersadda etc.
- 3) Just increase your typing speed, that's it.

#### INTERVIEW

- 1) Follow Interview Capsules and Experiences of different candidates.
- 2) When you come across a question, just think of the answer you will give when you are asked that question. Then evaluate your answer with the correct one and improve.

#### TEST SERIES

- 1) Practice is very important for competitive examinations. Go for Adda247 Test Series.

## News Makers of the Month: January 2018

### Padma Awards 2018 Announced: Full List of Recipients

36. The President of India has approved the awards for **85 individuals, which includes 3 Padma Vibhushan, 9 Padma Bhushan & 73 Padma Shri.**

37. Fourteen of the awardees are women & 3 persons have been awarded posthumously.

38. In sports personalities, **former India cricket captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni & multiple world champion cueist Pankaj Advani** have been conferred with the third-highest civilian award, Padma Bhushan.

39. The **2017 World Weightlifting Champion Saikhom Mirabai Chanu & former Asian Games gold medallist tennis player Somdev Devvarman** have been conferred with the Padma Shri. The awards are announced on the eve of the Republic Day every year.

#### Padma Vibhushan Awards (2nd highest civilian award)

Winner	Category
Ilayaraja	Art (Music)
Ghulam Mustafa Khan	Art (Music)
Parameswaran Parameswaran	Literature & Education

#### Padma Bhushan Awards (3rd highest civilian award)

Winner	Category
Pankaj Advani	Sport (Billiards/Snooker)
Mahendra Singh Dhoni	Sports (Cricket)
Alexander Kadakin (Foreigner/Posthumous)	Public Affairs
Ved Prakash Nanda	Literature & Education
Laxman Pai	Art (Painting)
Arvind Parikh	Art (Music)
Sharda Sinha	Art (Music)
Philipose Mar Chrysostom	Others (Spiritualism)
Ramachandran Nagaswamy	Others (Archaeology)

#### Padma Shri Awards

Winner	Category
Abhay Bang (Duo)	Medicine
Damodar Ganesh Bapat	Social Work
Prafulla Govinda Baruah	Literature & Education
Mohan Swaroop Bhatia	Arts
Sudhanshu Biswas	Social Work
Saikhom Mirabai Chanu	Sports for Weightlifting
Pandit Shyamlal Chaturvedi	Literature & Education
Jose Ma Joey Concepcion III (Philippines)	Trade & Industry
Langpoklakpam Subadani Devi	Art-Weaving
Somdev Devvarman	Sports (Tennis)
Yeshi Dhoden	Medicine
Arup Kumar Dutta	Literature & Education
Doddarange Gowda	Art (Lyrics)
Arvind Gupta	Literature & Education
Digamber Hansda	Literature & Education
Ramli Bin Ibrahim (Foreigner)	Art-Dance

<b>Anwar Jalalpuri (Posthumous)</b>	Literature & Education
<b>Piyong Temjen Jamir</b>	Literature & Education
<b>Sitavva Joddati</b>	Social Work
<b>Malti Joshi</b>	Literature & Education
<b>Manoj Joshi</b>	Art (Acting)
<b>Rameshwarlal Kabra</b>	Trade & Industry
<b>Pran Kishore Kaul</b>	Art
<b>Bounlap Keokangna (Foreigner)</b>	Architecture
<b>Vijay Kichlu</b>	Art - Music
<b>Tommy Koh (Foreigner)</b>	Public Affairs
<b>Lakshmikutty</b>	Medicine-Traditional
<b>Joyshree Goswami Mahanta</b>	Literature & Education
<b>Narayan Das Maharaj</b>	Spiritualism
<b>Pravakara Maharana Art</b>	Sculpture
<b>Hun Many (Foreigner)</b>	Public Affairs
<b>Nouf Marwaai (Foreigner)</b>	Yoga
<b>Zaverilal Mehta</b>	Literature & Education-Journalism
<b>Krishna Bihari Mishra</b>	Literature & Education
<b>Sisir Purushottam Mishra</b>	Art - Cinema
<b>Subhasini Mistry</b>	Social Work
<b>Tomio Mizokami (Foreigner)</b>	Literature & Education
<b>Somdet Phra Maha Muniwong (Foreigner)</b>	Spiritualism
<b>Keshav Rao Musalgaonkar</b>	Literature & Education
<b>Dr Thant Myint – U (Foreigner)</b>	Public Affairs
<b>V Nanammal</b>	Yoga
<b>Sulagitti Narasamma</b>	Social Work
<b>Ms Vijayalakshmi Navaneethakrishnan</b>	Art-Folk Music
<b>I Nyoman Nuarta (Foreigner)</b>	Art-Sculpture
<b>Shri Malai Haji Abdullah Bin Malai Haji Othman (Foreigner)</b>	Social Work
<b>Shri Gobaradhan Panika</b>	Art-Weaving
<b>Shri Bhabani Charan Pattanaik</b>	Public Affairs
<b>Shri Murlikant Petkar</b>	Sports-Swimming
<b>Shri Habibullo Rajabov (Foreigner)</b>	Literature & Education
<b>Shri MR Rajagopal</b>	Medicine-Palliative Care
<b>Shri Sampat Ramteke (Posthumous)</b>	Social Work
<b>Shri Chandra Sekhar Rath</b>	Literature & Education
<b>Shri SS Rathore</b>	Civil Service
<b>Shri Amitava Roy</b>	Science & Engineering
<b>Shri Sanduk Ruit (Foreigner)</b>	Science & Engineering
<b>Shri R Sathyanarayana</b>	Art-Music
<b>Shri Pankaj M Shah</b>	Medicine (Oncology)
<b>Shri Bhajju Shyam</b>	Art-Painting
<b>Shri Maharao Raghuvveer Singh</b>	Literature & Education
<b>Shri Kidambi Srikanth</b>	Sports-Badminton

Shri Ibrahim Sutar	Art-Music
Shri Siddeshwara Swamiji	Others-Spiritualism
Ms Lentina Ao Thakkar	Social Work
Shri Vikram Chandra Thakur	Science & Engineering
Shri Rudrapatnam Narayanaswamy Tharanathan with Shri Rudrapatnam Thyagarajan	Art (Music)
Shri Nguyen Tien Thien (Foreigner)	Spiritualism
Shri Bhagirath Prasad Tripathi	Literature & Education
Shri Rajagopalan Vasudevan	Science & Engineering
Shri Manas Bihari Verma	Science & Engineering
Shri Panatawane Gangadhar Vithobaji	Literature & Education
Shri Romulus Whitaker	Wildlife Conservation
Shri Baba Yogendra	Art
Shri A Zakia	Literature & Education

### And the Grammy 2018 award goes to...

The 60th Annual Grammy Awards were held at Madison Square Garden in New York City, the USA. James Corden was the host of the ceremony for the second year in a row.

It was Bruno Mars' night at the Grammy Awards held in New York, with the three biggest wins - Album of The Year & Record of The Year for 24K Magic & Song of The Year for 'That's What I Like'.

The list of winners is given below:

- 🏆 Album of The Year: Bruno Mars
- 🏆 Song of the Year: Bruno Mars', That's What I Like
- 🏆 Record of The Year: Bruno Mars, 24K Magic
- 🏆 Best Pop Solo Performance: Ed Sheeran, Shape of You
- 🏆 Best Pop Vocal Album: Ed Sheeran, Divide
- 🏆 Best Dance Recording: LCD Soundsystem, Tonite
- 🏆 Best Music Film: The Defiant Ones
- 🏆 Best Children's Album: Feel What U Feel, Lisa Loeb
- 🏆 Best Compilation Soundtrack for Visual Media: La La Land
- 🏆 Producer of the Year, Classical: David Frost

### Roger Federer won the Australian Open 2018

The 2018 Australian Open was the 106th edition of the tournament. Roger Federer was the defending champion & successfully defended his title, defeating Marin Cilic in the final. It was Federer's 20th Grand Slam title. In women's' single, Caroline Wozniacki became the first Danish player to win a Grand Slam singles title, defeating Simona Halep in the final.

Complete list of Winners of Australian Open

Category	Winner	Runner Up
Men's Singles	Roger Federer (Switzerland)	Marin Cilic (Croatia)
Women's Singles	Caroline Wozniacki (Denmark)	Simona Halep (Romania)
Men's Doubles	Oliver Marach (Austria) & Mate Pavic(Croatia)	Robert Farah & J. Cabal (Colombia)
Women's Doubles	Kristina Mladenovic (France) & Tímea Babos (Hungary)	Elena Vesnina (Russia)& Ekaterina Makarova (Russia)

Mixed Doubles	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada)& Mate Pavic (Croatia)	Timea Babos (Hungary)& Rohan Bopanna (India)
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## World Economic Forum Summit in Switzerland Concludes

Prime Minister Narendra Modi returned home after concluding his visit to Davos, Switzerland. During the visit, he delivered a keynote address at the plenary session of the **48th annual meeting of World Economic Forum**. He became the **first Indian prime minister in two decades** to join the world's top business leaders in the Swiss resort town of Davos.

✚ Mr Modi outlined climate change, terrorism & protectionism as three global threats. He also met his **Canadian counterpart, Justin Trudeau**. Both leaders discussed issues of mutual interest & reiterated their commitment to stand firm in combating terrorism.

✚ He also held a **meeting with Queen Maxima of the Netherlands** & discussed steps to deepen the bilateral relationship. He also interacted with top global CEOs at the International Business Council event.

**Note: Capital of Switzerland-** Bern, **Currency-** Swiss franc | **Founder & Chairman of WEF-** Klaus Schwab.

## Cabinet Approves Amendments in FDI Policy, Policies Further Liberalized

The Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi has approved amendments in FDI Policy & further liberalized few of the policies of FDI.

### Highlights of the Amendments-

- ✓ 100% FDI under automatic route for Single Brand Retail Trading.
- ✓ 100% FDI under automatic route in Construction Development.
- ✓ Foreign airlines allowed to invest up to 49% under approval route in Air India.
- ✓ FIIs/FPIs allowed to invest in Power Exchanges through primary market.
- ✓ Definition of 'medical devices' amended in the FDI Policy.

- a) **Government approval no longer required for FDI in Single Brand Retail Trading (SBRT):** Extant FDI policy on SBRT allows 49% FDI under automatic route, & FDI beyond 49% & up to 100% through Government approval route. It has now been decided to permit 100% FDI under automatic route for SBRT.
- b) **Civil Aviation:** As per the extant policy, foreign airlines are allowed to invest under Government approval route in the capital of Indian companies operating scheduled & non-scheduled air transport services, up to the limit of 49% of their paid-up capital. However, this provision was presently not applicable to Air India, thereby implying that foreign airlines could not invest in Air India. **It has now been decided to do away with this restriction & allow foreign airlines to invest up to 49% under approval route in Air India.**
- c) **Construction Development: Townships, Housing, Built-up Infrastructure & Real Estate Broking Services:** It has been decided to clarify that **real-estate broking service** does not amount to real estate business & is therefore, **eligible for 100% FDI under automatic route.**
- d) **Power Exchanges:** Extant policy provides for 49% FDI under automatic route in Power Exchanges registered under the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Power Market) Regulations, 2010. It has now been decided to do away with this provision, thereby **allowing FIIs/FPIs to invest in Power Exchanges through primary market as well.**

## All You Need to Know About New Rs10 Banknote in Mahatma Gandhi Series

- a) **Reserve Bank of India** has announced to issue **Rs10 denomination banknotes** in the Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series, bearing the signature of Dr. Urjit R. Patel, Governor, RBI.
- b) The new denomination has **motif of Sun Temple, Konark on the reverse**, depicting the country's cultural heritage.
- c) The **base colour of the note is Chocolate Brown**. The dimension of the banknote will be **63 mm x 123 mm**.

**Obverse (Front):** See through register with denominational numeral 10, Denominational numeral 'Bharat' in Devnagari, Portrait of Mahatma Gandhi at the centre, Guarantee Clause, Governor's signature with Promise Clause & RBI emblem towards right of Mahatma Gandhi portrait, Ashoka Pillar emblem on the right, Mahatma Gandhi portrait & electrotype (10) watermarks, & Number panel with numerals growing from small to big on the top left side & bottom right side.

**Reverse (Back):** Year of printing of the note on the left, Swachh Bharat logo with slogan, Language panel, Motif of Sun Temple, Konark, & Denominational numeral in Devnagari.

## ISRO' successfully launched its 42nd PSLV named PSLV-C40

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched its 42nd Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) from the First Launch Pad of Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- The PSLV-C40 is to place 31 satellites, originating from seven countries, across two orbits.
- Its primary payload was the fourth satellite in the advanced remote sensing Cartosat-2 series. The satellite's design life is five years. ISRO successfully sent up a rocket carrying India's 100th satellite along with 30 others.

### Important Facts About the Launched Satellite-

- ✚ The 30 other satellites include two other satellites from India & 28 satellites from six countries -Canada, Finland, France, Korea, the United Kingdom & the United States.
- ✚ This was done through what scientists call the "multiple burn technology" under which the rocket's engine is switched off & then switched on to control its height.
- ✚ The 710-kg earth observation satellite the PSLV is carrying the third in the Cartosat 2 series. The last satellite of the series had been launched successfully in June 2016.
- ✚ ISRO's workhorse PSLV rocket weighs nearly 320 tonnes & stands up to 44.4 meters, equivalent to a 15-storey building.

## And the 63rd Filmfare Awards 2018 goes to...

- Bollywood came together to celebrate the industry's talent at 63rd Jio Filmfare Awards 2018, held in Mumbai. Superstar Shah Rukh Khan & filmmaker Karan Johar hosted the show.
- 'Hindi Medium' bagged honours in the categories of Best Film & Best Actor in a Leading Role (Male) for Irrfan Khan's impeccable performance.
- Vidya Balan won her career's sixth Filmfare award for her passionate portrayal of a middle-aged homemaker who turns into a radio jockey in 'Tumhari Sulu' as she claimed the Black Lady for the Best Actor in a Leading Role (Female).

### Complete list of winners of 63rd Filmfare Awards 2018

Category	Winner
Best Film	'Hindi Medium'
Critics' Award for Best Film	'Newton'
Best Actor In A Leading Role (Female)	Vidya Balan for 'Tumhari Sulu'
Best Actor In A Leading Role (Male)	Irrfan Khan for 'Hindi Medium'
Critics' Award for Best Actor (Male)	Rajkummar Rao for 'Trapped'
Critics' Award for Best Actor (Female)	Zaira Wasim for 'Secret Superstar'
Best Director	Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari for 'Bareilly Ki Barfi'
Best Debut Director	Konkona Sensharma for 'A Death in the Gunj'
Best Actor In A Supporting Role (Male)	Rajkummar Rao for 'Bareilly Ki Barfi'
Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Female)	Meher Vij for 'Secret Superstar'
Best Dialogue	Hitesh Kewalya for 'Shubh Mangal Saavdhan'
Best Screenplay	Shubhashish Bhutiani for 'Mukti Bhavan'
Best Original Story	Amit Masurkar for 'Newton'
Best Actor (Male) in a Short Film	Jackie Shroff for 'Khujli'
Best Actor (Female) in a Short Film	Shefali Shah for 'Juice'
People's Choice Award for Best Short Film	'Anahut'
Best Short Film (Fiction)	'Juice'
Best Short Film (Non Fiction)	'Invisible Wings'
Best Music Album	Pritam for 'Jagga Jasoos'
Best Playback Singer (Male)	Arijit Singh for 'Roke na ruke naina'-'Badrinath Ki Dulhania'

## ICC Award 2017- Complete List of Winners

Australia captain Steve Smith has been crowned the International Cricket Council's Test Player of the Year for a second time, while Indian captain Virat Kohli has been honoured twice in the ICC's annual awards. It's the first time since 2011 that the winner of the Test Player of the Year Award was not also crowned the Cricketer of the Year. Kohli was the fourth-highest run-scorer's in Tests in 2017.

### The Complete list of Winners of ICC Award 2017-

- Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year - Virat Kohli (India)
- ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Year - Steve Smith (Australia)

3. **ICC Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year** - Virat Kohli (India)
4. **ICC Men's Emerging Cricketer of the Year** - Hasan Ali (Pakistan)
5. **ICC Men's Associate Cricketer of the Year** - Rashid Khan (Afghanistan)
6. **ICC Men's T20I Performance of the Year** - Yuzvendra Chahal (6-25 v England) (India)
7. **David Shepherd Trophy for ICC Umpire of the Year** – Marais Erasmus
8. **ICC Spirit of Cricket** - Anya Shrubsole (England)
9. **ICC Fans Moment of the Year** - Pakistan stuns India to win the ICC Champions Trophy 2017.

## CURRENT AFFAIRS : 19th December to 20th January 2018

### INDIA IN NEWS

#### **Elections Dates in Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland Declared**

Election Commission of India announced the dates for elections to the Assemblies of Meghalaya, Tripura and Nagaland. All the three states have 60 seats each in their assembly. The tenure of the Meghalaya, Tripura and Nagaland Assemblies will expire on March 6, March 13 and March 14, 2018, respectively. State elections to Karnataka, Mizoram, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are also due this year.

#### **Centre Sanctions Projects over Rs. 10,000 cr in North East for Better Network Connectivity**

Centre sanctioned projects over 10,000 crore rupees in the North East for better network connectivity. 2 MoUs have been signed to cover the uncovered areas in the North East including Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

#### **PM Modi Inaugurates Project Commencement of Rajasthan's first Oil Refinery in Barmer**

PM Modi has inaugurated the project commencement of the Rajasthan Refinery at Pachpadra in Barmer district. This is the first oil refinery in the state. The 43,000 crore rupee project is a joint venture between HPCL and the Rajasthan government.

#### **Digital launch of 'I4Fund call for proposal' website at India-Israel Business Summit**

The 'I4Fund Call for Proposal' was announced with the joint launch of the website and the unveiling of the brochure by the two PMs (Narendra Modi and Benjamin Netanyahu). The "India-Israel Industrial R&D and Technological Innovation Fund (I4F)" was announced in July, 2017. Under this, the Department of Science and Technology, India and the National Innovation Authority of Israel have established a 40 million US dollar Fund.

#### **Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu visited India**

During the visit, India and Israel have agreed to enhance co-operation in the areas of agriculture, science and technology and security.

#### **India contributes USD 50,000 to UN Youth Envoy's Office**

India has contributed USD 50,000 to UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres's Office of Envoy on Youth to help with its mission of involving young people in the world body's goals. The contribution is voluntary with no strings attached and is in addition to the regular payments India makes to the UN's general and peacekeeping budgets.

#### **UIDAI Introduces 'Virtual ID' to Strengthen Privacy and Security of Aadhaar Data**

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has introduced a concept of 'Virtual ID' to further strengthen privacy and security of Aadhaar number holders. The Aadhaar number holder can use 'Virtual ID' in place of an Aadhaar number whenever authentication or KYC services are performed. The Virtual ID will be a temporary and revocable 16 digit random number mapped to a person's Aadhaar number.

#### **India's 1st Multi-Petaflop Supercomputer 'Pratyush' Dedicated to Nation**

Union Minister of Earth Sciences Dr Harsh Vardhan dedicated India's fastest and first multi-petaflops supercomputer named 'Pratyush' to the nation in Pune. It is established at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune. It will be a national facility for improving weather and climate forecasts and services under the umbrella of the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

#### **World's Biggest Cleanliness Survey 'Swachh Sarvekshan 2018' Launched**

The world's biggest cleanliness survey 'Swachh Sarvekshan Survey 2018' was launched in India by PM Narendra Modi. It will be conducted from the 4th of January to 10th of March. The survey will evaluate achievements in cleanliness level of urban areas. The cleanliness survey was launched in 2016 as part of the Swachh Bharat Mission. The main objective of Swachh Sarvekshan is to encourage large-scale citizen participation and create awareness towards making towns and cities a cleaner and better place to live in.

#### **Vice President inaugurates Centenary Celebrations of Yoga Institute in Mumbai**

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the Centenary celebrations of the Yoga Institute in Mumbai. The institute was

founded by Shree Yogendraji Mani Haribhai Desai, the disciple of Paramahans Madhavadasji in 1918. It helps spread yoga practices.

#### **India's First design University Opens in Haryana**

India's first and only design university, 'World University of Design' opened its campus at Sonapat, Haryana. The University is promoted by Om Parkash Bansal Educational and Social Welfare Trust of Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab. WUD is India's first university dedicated to education in the creative domain.

#### **Cabinet Approves Establishing India's 1st National Rail and Transportation University**

Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi has approved the Ministry of Railways' transformative initiative to set up India's first ever National Rail and Transport University (NRTU) in Vadodara, Gujarat to skill its human resources and build capability.

## **STATES IN NEWS**

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#### **Maharashtra Becomes 1st State To Unveil Public Cloud Policy**

Maharashtra become the first state in the country that has come out with a public cloud policy, virtually mandating its departments to shift their data storage onto the cloud.

#### **Odisha CM Launches 'Mukhyamantri Kalakar Sahayata Yojana'**

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launched the 'Mukhyamantri Kalakar Sahayata Yojana' (MMKSJ) – an assistance scheme for Artists in the state. The government has decided to give Rs 1,200 per month as artist assistance. Under the new scheme, a male artist can avail assistance after attaining the age of 50 years instead of the existing 60 years. The age criteria for female artists have been reduced to 40 years from 50 years.

#### **Karnataka Tops States With Investment Intentions Of Rs. 1.49 Lakh Crore**

Karnataka topped all states with investment intentions of Rs. 1.49 lakh crore till October 2017. The investment was 43 percent of the country's total investment intentions. Karnataka has topped in FDI inflows and has performed well in exports.

#### **Haryana Becomes First State To Launch High Risk Pregnancy Portal**

Haryana become the first state in the country to launch High Risk Pregnancy (HRP) Portal. This portal not only helps in early identification of high-risk pregnant cases up to the grass-roots level but also ensures their timely referral to the civil hospitals for further management and delivery by specialists.

#### **India's Second FTII To Be Set Up In Arunachal Pradesh**

Minister of State (I/C) for Development of North Eastern Region Jitendra Singh announced that Arunachal Pradesh will get its first Film and Television Institute, being set up by the Union Government. This would be the second such one in the country. FTII is an autonomous institute operating under the Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

#### **West Bengal CM Unveils Official Emblem Of West Bengal Government**

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee unveiled the official emblem of the state government. The logo highlights the Ashoka emblem on the top with the theme of "Biswa Bangla" at the centre.

#### **Karnataka To Hold 'Largest B2B Travel Event' In The Country**

Karnataka government announced that 'Karnataka International Travel Expo' (KITE) will be held from February 28, billing it as the "largest" B2B travel event in the country.

#### **Meghalaya Signs Host City Contract For 39th National Games In 2022**

Meghalaya signed the Host City Contract with the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) for hosting the 39th National Games in 2022. The tripartite contract was signed between the IOA, the Meghalaya State Olympic Association and the state government.

#### **NABARD Sanctioned Rs 372.51 Crore To Odisha**

NABARD has sanctioned Rs 372.51 crore loan assistance under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) to Odisha towards irrigation and rural bridge projects for the last quarter of this fiscal.

#### **1st Draft Of National Register Of Citizens In Assam Released**

The citizen of Assam witnessed the release of the first draft of National Register of Citizens (NRC) containing the first batch of 19

million names of genuine Indian citizens in compliance with the Supreme Court 's orders.

#### **Arunachal Pradesh Declared Open Defecation Free**

Arunachal Pradesh has been declared open defecation free ahead of the national deadline of October 2, 2019. The milestone was achieved after the state announced an incentive of Rs 8,000 in addition to the Rs 12,000-grant provided by the Centre for building toilets.

#### **President Dedicated 4 Projects To Andhra Pradesh**

President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, dedicated to the people of Andhra Pradesh four projects of the State Government at a function held at Velagapudi, Andhra Pradesh. The Projects were Andhra Pradesh Fibregrid Project, Andhra Pradesh Surveillance Project, Drone Project; and Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) system. The President focused on the 24/7 hyper-connected world and the online presence of the government.

#### **Bengaluru Becomes First Indian City To Have Its Own Logo**

Karnataka's capital city Bengaluru has become the first Indian city to have its own logo after the state government launched it. The logo was designed by a design start-up and uses both English and Kannada alphabets.

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