

CURRENT AFFAIRS

G20 Summit 2018

2018 G20 Summit held between 30th November 2018 and 1st December 2018 in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

PM Modi presented a 9-point agenda to G20 Member Nations, calling for strong and active co-operation to deal with fugitive economic offenders. The agenda was presented during the second session of the G20 Summit 2018 on International Trade, International Financial and Tax Systems.

India also called for joint efforts by G-20 countries to form a mechanism that denies entry to fugitive economic offenders.

This is 13th meeting of G20 and the first G20 summit hosted in South America. G-20 was formed with an aim of studying, reviewing, and promoting high-level discussion of policy issues pertaining to the promotion of international financial stability.

Sunil Arora is the new CEC

On 26th November 2018, Sunil Arora has been appointed as the new Chief Election Commissioner by President Ram Nath Kovind. He takes charge on 2nd December 2018. He succeeds OP Rawat and Sunil Arora has been working Election Commissioner since September 2017. Ashok Lavasa is another commissioner working in Election Commission.

ISRO PSLV-C43 mission success

ISRO successfully launched PSLV-C43 mission that carried 31 satellites including the HysIS satellite on 29th November 2018. This is the 45th launch flight of PSLV rocket, conducted from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

HysIS satellite is earth observation satellite. The primary mission of the Hyper Spectral Imaging Satellite (HysIS), whose life is five years, is to study the earth's surface in visible, near infrared and shortwave infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum.

The other satellites from United States of America (23 satellites), Australia, Canada, Columbia, Finland, Malaysia, Netherlands and Spain (one satellite each).

Kartarpur Corridor foundation

On 28th November 2018, Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan laid the foundation stone for corridor linking Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Pakistan's Kartarpur with Dera Baba Nanak shrine in Gurdaspur district in Punjab (India) to facilitate visa-free movement of Indian Sikh pilgrims.

Kartarpur the final resting place of Sikh faith's founder Guru Nanak Dev. The Kartarpur Corridor is expected to be completed within six months. The development comes ahead of Guru Nanak's 550th birth anniversary next year.

Union ministers Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Hardeep Singh Puri and Punjab cabinet minister Navjot Singh Sidhu graced the function.

On 26th November 2018, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu laid the foundation stone of the Kartarpur corridor in the village Mann of Punjab (India) in Dera baba Nanak.

Konkan 18

Konkan 18 is a naval exercise between India and United Kingdom started in the off coast of Goa.

The harbor phase held between November 28th to November 30th 2018 followed by the sea phase from 2th - 6th December, 2018.

For this edition of exercise, Royal Navy represented by HMS Dragon, a Type 45 Class Destroyer equipped with integral Wildcat helicopter and Indian Navy represented by INS Kolkata, the first ship of latest Kolkata class destroyers, equipped with integral Seaking and submarine and maritime patrol aircraft Dornier. The thrust of exercise this year is on Anti-Air warfare, Anti-Submarine Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Visit Board Search and Seizure (VBSS) and seamanship evolutions. Besides exercises at sea, it will also encompass professional interactions and sports fixtures.

PAISA Portal launched

The centralised electronic platform for processing interest subvention on bank loans to beneficiaries under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) named “PAISA – Portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access”, was launched on 26th November 2018. Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched during National Workshop on Municipal Finance and Urban Planning held in New Delhi.

PAISA is another effort to connect directly with the beneficiaries, ensuring that there is greater transparency and efficiency in delivery of services.

Constitution Day celebrated

Constitution Day celebrated every year on 26th November. On this day in 1949 the constitution of India was adopted by the Constituent Assembly and constitution came into force on 26th of January in 1950. President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the Constitution Day Celebration in New Delhi.

World Hockey Cup 2018

14th edition of the Hockey World Cup field hockey tournament commenced on 28th November 2018. Sixteen teams participating in tournament. Hockey World Cup opening ceremony conveyed a powerful message of "oneness of humanity". The ceremony showcased first-of-its-kind theatrical production - The Earth Song. The event concluded with the official song of the Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2018 - 'Jai Hind , Jai India' which is sung and composed by Rahman and written by veteran writer Gulzar.

Turtle 'Olly' is the official mascot. It represents the endangered Olive Ridley sea turtles that travel thousands of miles in the ocean and arrive in millions every year on Odisha's beaches for their annual nesting.

The tournament hosting by Kalinga Hockey Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Blue Economy Conference

First Sustainable Blue Economy Conference concluded on 28th November 2018 at Kenyatta International Convention Center, in Nairobi, Kenya. It aims to work through the framework of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).

The main objective is to advance the global conversation on the sustainable development of the Blue Economy.

Theme of this conference was 'The Blue Economy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.' It was primarily hosted by the Government of Kenya with Canada and Japan as co-hosts and supported by UNDP through a multi donor basket fund.

Ram statue in Ayodhya

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath unveiled the finalised details for the construction of a 221 meters long statue of Lord Ram in Ayodhya. The height of the Ram statue would be 151 meters, its overhead umbrella would be 20 meters while the pedestal would be 50 meters. The combined height of the structure would thus be 221 meters, making it the world's tallest statue.

The statue will be made of bronze and will house a "modern museum" which will have history of Ayodhya and the entire "Ikshvaku Vansh" right from King Manu to the present status of "Ram Janmabhoomi".

India - China Border Talks

21st round of India - China Special Representatives border talks concluded at Dujiangyan near southwest China's Chengdu city. National Security Advisor Ajit Doval from the Indian side participated.

The meet reviewed the progress made in bilateral ties in the Wuhan Summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping that held in April 2018. They discussed about the work of India-China Closer Developmental Partnership.

Both leaders told that working on a mutually acceptable solution to the India-China boundary question at an early date is good for both sides.

MODEL QUESTIONS

- 2019 G20 summit to be hosted by.....?
 - 1) Banglore, India
 - 2) Osaka, Japan
 - 3) Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
 - 4) Milan, Italy
 - 5) Hamburg, Germany
- Membership of the G20 consists of 19 individual countries and?
 - 1) ASEAN
 - 2) SAARC
 - 3) European Union
 - 4) UNO
 - 5) NATO
- VVPAT stands for.....?
 - 1) Voting Verifiable Paper Audit Transaction
 - 2) Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail
 - 3) Voter Ventilata Paper Audit Trail
 - 4) Voter Verifiable Purpose Audit Trail
 - 5) Voter Verifiable Paper Aim Trail
- Guru Granth Sahib is the holy book of.....?
 - 1) Muslims
 - 2) Sikhs
 - 3) Hindus
 - 4) Jews
 - 5) Christians

