

23rd January Current Affairs

(TNPSC, SSC, BANK, UPSC, RAILWAY)



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1. India-ASEAN Business & Investment Conference Held in New Delhi

- **India-ASEAN business and investment conference held in New Delhi** ahead of the landmark commemorative summit meeting on the 25th of January. In the conference, Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu stresses enhanced connectivity via land to strengthen trade ties.
- **Silver jubilee of India-ASEAN partnership** is being celebrated in New Delhi on the 25th January with an unprecedented summit meet.
- **About ASEAN**
 - ASEAN is a grouping of 10 South-East Asian nations,
 - It aims at boosting trade & economic development among member nations maintaining peace & stability in the region,
 - India & ASEAN partnership began in 1992
 - ASEAN nations have invested \$ 70 Billion in India since 2000,
 - India has invested \$ 40 Billion in ASEAN countries in the last 17 years.

Takeaways

1. **ASEAN Secretariat**- Jakarta, Indonesia.
2. The Secretary-General of ASEAN 2018 -2022 is **H.E. Lim Jock Hoi**

2.India, 5th Most Attractive Market for Investments: PwC Survey



- **India has emerged as the fifth most attractive market** for investments and the optimism over global economic growth is at a record level, as per the survey of CEOs by global consultancy PwC.
- **The US remains the top spot for global investment.** Around 46% of global CEOs consider the US as one of the three most important countries for growth, **followed by China (33%) and Germany (20%) at second and third places**, respectively. India (9%) bumps Japan (8%) as the fifth most attractive market in 2018.

3. ONGC Acquires 51.11% Stake in HPCL



- The Public Sector exploration giant **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)** has got the consent for acquiring controlling stake in fellow PSU **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL)**. The transaction will be for Rs36,915 crore.
- According to a statement issued by ONGC, it has entered into a share purchase agreement with the President of India for acquiring the shares of **HPCL (representing 51.11% of HPCL)**. This acquisition is in line with the government's objective to combine the Central Public Sector Enterprises to give them the capacity to bear higher risks and avail themselves of economies of scale.

Takeaways

1. **Chairman & Managing Director of ONGC-** Shashi Shanker
2. **Headquarters-** Uttarakhand.
3. **Chairman and Managing Director HPCL-** M.K.Surana
4. **Headquarters-** Mumbai, Maharashtra.

4. India to Grow at 7.4% in 2018: IMF

- **According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF)**, India is projected to grow at **7.4% in 2018** as against China's 6.8%, making it the fastest growing country among the emerging economies. Due to demonetisation and implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), India's economy slowed down a little bit to 6.7% in 2016.
- In 2017, India's growth rate dropped to 6.7%. In its latest World Economic Outlook update released in Davos, Switzerland on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum, the IMF has projected a 7.8% growth rate for India in 2019.

Takeaways

1. **Managing Director of IMF-** Christine Lagarde
2. **Headquarters in-** Washington DC, USA

5. Smartphones and computers don't hamper bookworms



- According to reports, at least 13 lakh books were sold in the 44th Chennai book fair, organised by the Booksellers' and Publishers' Association of South India (BAPASI).
- The book fair which ended on Monday (January 23) witnessed the around 15 lakh visitors, say reports. Further, books were sold for Rs 15 crore in the 13-day book festival held in Aminjikarai, reports added.

6. Bus fare hike: Students continue strike



- Following the recent hike in bus fare announced by Tamil Nadu government, students have been protesting across the state in several districts including Madurai and Dharmapuri for the second consecutive day.
- Dharmapuri government arts college and Madurai Law college students are currently protesting asking the government to withdraw the hike in bus fare.

7. Shah Rukh Khan Honoured with Crystal Award at World Economic Forum



- **Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan** was honoured with the **24th Crystal Award at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.**
- According to the WEF, Shah Rukh Khan received Award for "his leadership in championing children's and women's rights in India". Shahrukh received the award alongside Elton John and Hollywood actress Cate Blanchett .

8. AYUSH Minister Lays Foundation Stone for Homeopathy Research Institute in Jaipur



- **The Minister of State (IC), for AYUSH, Shri Shripad Yesso Naik** laid the foundation stone for **Central Research Institute (CRI) in Jaipur, Rajasthan.** This will be the third CRI under the aegis of Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH).
- In his address during the stone laying ceremony, Sh. Naik stated that Ministry of AYUSH is determined towards a focused infrastructural push to Homoeopathy and other systems of AYUSH.

Takeaways

1. **AYUSH-** Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy.
2. The Ministry of AYUSH was formed on 9th November 2014

9. Andhra Pradesh-Zurich Sign Sister State Agreement

- **The Andhra Pradesh Government** and the **Canton of Zurich** signed a letter of intent, to promote mutual prosperity and development. The agreement was signed in the presence of Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh N Chandrababu Naidu and Government Counselor Minister Carmen Walker Spah for sister state relation.
- This will bring the State of Andhra Pradesh and Canton of Zurich closer and ensure that a framework is created, which supports the exchange between both the parties.

Takeaways

1. **Andhra Pradesh Governor**- ESL Narasimhan.
2. Zurich is the capital of Canton of Zurich

10. FICCI Appoints Dilip Chenoy as Director General

- Industry Chamber Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) has appointed Dilip Chenoy as its Director General.
- Prior to this, he was Chairman of Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology and Member, Board of Advisors, IILM. He was awarded the Game Changer Award in 2015 and the Rashtriya Media Ratan Award in 2013.

Takeaways

1. Sanjaya Baru is the Secretary General of FICCI.
2. FICCI was established in 1927.

11. West Indies to Host 2018 Women's World T20



- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced, the **2018 edition of the Women's World T20** will be hosted by **West Indies in November 2018**. Hosts Windies will defend the title they won over Australia in Kolkata in 2016.
- The three venues were selected by Cricket West Indies through a bidding process and have been ratified by the ICC. The November event in the Caribbean will be the first stand-alone ICC Women's World Twenty20 after the past five events were played alongside the men's event.

Takeaways

1. **ICC Chief Executive-** David Richardson
2. **Headquarters-** Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

12. Shuttler Siddharth Singh Wins Swedish Open Junior Badminton Title



- **Young Indian shuttler Siddharth Pratap Singh** secured his maiden international title, bagging the **Swedish Open Junior International Series** with a straight-game victory over **Denmark's Mads Christophersen** in the finals in Uppsala in Sweden.
- Playing his first career final, Siddharth defeated Christophersen in a 33-minute match to claim the men's singles title.

Takeaways

1. **Sweden Capital-** Stockholm
2. **Currency-** Swedish krona.

13. Hugh Masekela, 'Father of South African Jazz' Passes Away



- **Trumpeter, composer and singer Hugh Masekela**, affectionately known as the '**father of South African jazz**', has died after a long battle with prostate cancer. He was 78.

- In a career spanning more than five decades, Masekela gained international recognition with his distinctive Afro-Jazz sound. He opened the 2010 FIFA World Cup Kick-Off Concert and performed at the event's opening ceremony in Johannesburg's Soccer City stadium

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