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History of January 19

- ◆ **1986** : The first computer virus, C-Brain, was activated.
- ◆ **1975** : An earthquake occurred in Himachal Pradesh.
- ◆ **1942** : Japan occupied Burma during World War II.
- ◆ **1649** : The trial against England's King Charles I began.
- ◆ **2003** : Indian diplomat Sudhir Vyas was tortured in Pakistan.
- ◆ **1597** : Maharana Pratap, the Rajput lion of Mewar, died.

Current Affairs Related to 19 January

- ◆ The International Hockey Federation has sealed an important media official partnership with Viacom18 for a four-year period till 2023-2027. This special agreement covers all International Hockey Federation events except the International Hockey Federation Nations Cup. Fans can watch the action on Viacom18's linear channels under the umbrella of network Sports 18. Additionally, the matches will be available on OTT platform Jio Cinema, providing flexibility and convenience to viewers.
- ◆ Hanumangarhi Laddus, which is available as Prasad in Ayodhya, is likely to get GI tag. Its application has been accepted by the GI Registrar, Chennai. The application was filed by Halwai Kalyan Samiti, Ayodhya under the category of food items. Hanumangarhi laddu is prepared locally from gram flour and desi ghee for offering in Ayodhya. These laddus are so popular in that area that on an average 20.25 quintals of laddus are prepared every day.
- ◆ Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal inaugurated the food exhibition in Greater Noida. Its objective is to promote global trade from this region. IndusFood 2024 show is organized every year by the Trade Promotion Council of India in collaboration with the Department of Commerce. Goyal said that there is immense potential in food exports from India and despite the restrictions imposed on the export of some key commodities this financial year, the country's agricultural exports will exceed last year's level of \$ 53 billion.
- ◆ The Center has announced several key appointments in the government's bureaucratic reshuffle, indicating a strategic restructuring of responsibilities. Among the notable changes, senior IAS officer Sameer Kumar Sinha has been appointed as Additional Secretary and Director General in the Defense Ministry. Sameer Kumar Sinha, a 1994 batch IAS officer of Assam Meghalaya cadre, has been given the important post of Additional Secretary and Director General in the Defense Ministry.
- ◆ Public sector Power Finance Corporation has received approval for formation of a finance company in GIFT City, Gujarat. PFC Chairperson and Managing Director Parminder Chopra said the unit operating in the International Financial Services Center will offer new business opportunities for PFC and contribute to the development of the country's power sector. PFC said in a filing to the stock exchange that the company has received a no objection letter from the Reserve Bank to set up a finance company as a wholly owned subsidiary in GIFT City.
- ◆ The assault rifle Ugram, jointly developed by the Defense Research and Development Organization and a private firm, has been launched. It was made in DRDO's Pune-based laboratory Armament Research and Development Establishment. Launched by Director General Dr SV Gade in the presence of ARDE Director A Raju.
- ◆ A unique culinary tradition has been thriving in the heart of Mayurbhanj district of Odisha for centuries. This delicious dish, locally known as Kai Chutney, is prepared using Red Weaver ants, scientifically identified as Oecophila smaragdina. Known for their painful sting, these ants are brought from the lush forests of Mayurbhanj, including the famous Similipal forest, home to Asia's second largest biosphere.
- ◆ Singapore's Changi Airport has once again been crowned the World's Best Airport for the year 2023, according to the prestigious awards presented by air transport research firm, Skytrax. Changi Airport regained its position as the best in the world after losing the title to Qatar's Hamad International Airport the previous two years, marking the twelfth time the airport has received this prestigious accolade.
- ◆ The Reserve Bank of India 28th FSR reflects the strength of the Indian financial system with SCBs' CRAR at 16.8%.

National & International Current Affairs

1. Recently, Begumpet Airport of Hyderabad is hosting the aviation festival, Wings India 2024.

- (A) 15th to 19th January (B) 17th to 20th January
(C) 18th to 21st January (D) 20th to 24th January

(C) Hyderabad's Begumpet Airport is hosting the aviation festival, Wings India 2024, from January 18 to 21. This is the most important civil aviation program of the country. Organized jointly by the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Indian Industry, this four-day biennial extravaganza promises to be a showcase of cutting-edge aviation technology and machinery.



2. Who will chair the UNESCO World Heritage Committee recently in July?

- (A) India (B) Italy
(C) Sri Lanka (D) Spain

(A) India will chair and host the UNESCO World Heritage Committee for the first time in history in July this year. The country is going to host the UNESCO World Heritage Site for the first time from July 21 to 31. The World Heritage Committee organizes a World Heritage Conference once every year. India has been selected to host the 46th session of the Committee.



3. Recently, which state has set a target of becoming a 500 billion dollar economy by 2026-2027?

- (A) Kerala (B) Rajasthan
(C) Madhya Pradesh (D) Gujarat

(D) Recently Gujarat has set a target of becoming a US\$ 500 billion economy by 2026-2027. Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel said that his government has set a target of contributing 10 percent to India's GDP. The state's share in India's total merchandise exports was 33 percent last year.



4. Recently, Uttar Pradesh government will install solar roofs in 25,000 houses.

- (A) Varanasi (B) Ayodhya
(C) Indore (D) Gorakhpur

(A) Uttar Pradesh government will install solar roofs on 25,000 houses in Varanasi in just 2 months. Adequate government subsidy of Rs 150 crore from the Center and Rs 75 crore from the state will be distributed to families adopting solar panels. UPNDA adopted a multi-pronged strategy combining massive awareness campaigns, logistics planning and supply arrangements to ensure the success of the initiative.



5. Recently, the State Transport Corporation of which state has started India's first 100% electric bike taxi?

- (A) Assam (B) Odisha
(C) Telangana (D) Uttar Pradesh

(A) Assam Government launched Bayu, an app based electric bike taxi service which is an innovative and visionary sustainable mobility initiative of the state government run Assam State Transport Corporation. The app-based electric bike taxi service was flagged off by Assam Transport Minister Parimal Suklabaidya in the state capital Guwahati.



6. Who has recently been appointed as CEO for the International Payments Division by PhonePe?

- (A) Shashi Singh (B) Ritesh Pai
(C) Rashmi Govil (D) None of these

(B) Walmart-owned fintech firm PhonePe has appointed Ritesh Pai as the chief executive officer of its international payments business. The development is in line with India's ambition to globalize the Unified Payments Interface, which has attracted interest from countries such as Japan, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, France and the United Kingdom.



7. How many players including Mohammed Shami have been honored with the Arjuna Award recently?

- (A) 18 (B) 20
(C) 24 (D) 26

(D) Indian cricketer Mohammed Shami was awarded the Arjuna Award by the President of India Draupadi Murmu. Arjuna Award is the second biggest sports award in the country after Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award. This time this award has been given to 26 players from different sports. This time, two legendary badminton players Chirag Shetty and Satwik Sairaj Rankireddy were honored with the country's biggest sports honour, Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.



8. In which state has the College Fagthanshi Mission been started recently?

- (A) Uttarakhand (B) Mizoram
(C) Manipur (D) Uttar Pradesh

(C) Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh launched the College Phagthansi Mission by laying the foundation stone and inaugurating various projects in Bishnupur district. The Chief Minister launched the College Phagthansi Mission to improve government colleges in the state at a function held at Moirang College.



9. Recently, Gabriel Atal has become the youngest Prime Minister of which country?

- (A) France (B) Italy
(C) Pakistan (D) Canada

(A) President Emmanuel Macron has appointed Gabriel Atal as the new Prime Minister of France. At the age of 34, Atal is the youngest official in history to hold this prestigious post. In the French political system, the Prime Minister is appointed by the President and is directly answerable to the Parliament.



10. Which country has recently passed a bill banning the consumption and sale of dog meat?

- (A) China (B) Taiwan
(C) South Korea (D) China

(C) Recently, the Parliament of South Korea passed a historic law declaring the centuries-long tradition of eating dog meat illegal. Under a law, breeding, breeding and selling of dogs for meat will become illegal in the country from 2027.

