

# CAREER <sup>update</sup>

## CURRENT AFFAIRS 2018 SELECTED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS - 04

### IMPORTANT EVENTS 2017 - 2018 & WHO'S WHO

01. Who is the present Chairman of the Innovation Council and Chief Executive Officer of Kerala?

**K.M. Abraham**

◆ The present Chief Secretary of Kerala -  
Paul Antony

02. Which city hosted the 105<sup>th</sup> Indian Science Congress in 2018?

**Imphal (in Manipur)**

◆ 104<sup>th</sup> Indian Science Congress - Tirupati (in Andhra Pradesh)

03. Which picture is depicted on the new Rs. 10 note to be issued by the RBI?

**The Konark Sun Temple in Odisha**

◆ The colour of the new Rs. 10 note - Chocolate brown

◆ The present Governor of RBI - Urjit Patel

04. In which year did blue moon, super moon and blood moon coincide after the year of 1866?

**2018 (January 31)**

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05. Who became the first woman Defence Minister of India to fly in a combat jet Sukhoi 30MKI?

**Nirmala Sitharaman**

- ◆ Nirmala Sitharaman is the first full time woman Defence Minister of India.
- ◆ The first Indian woman pilot to fly a fighter aircraft, the MiG-21 Bison solo - Avani Chaturvedi
- ◆ The first woman pilot of Indian Navy - Shubhangi Swaroop

06. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Kerala Public Service Commission?

**Adv. M.K. Sakeer**

- ◆ The president of the Kerala State Sports Council - T.P. Dasan

07. Who is the present Chief of the Naval Staff of the Indian Navy?

**Admiral Sunil Lanba**

08. Who is serving as the current Chief Electoral officer of Kerala?

**Teekaram Meena**

- ◆ The present Chief Election Commissioner of Kerala - V. Bhaskaran

09. Who is the present Chairperson of Women's Commission of Kerala?

**M.C. Josephine**

- ◆ The present Chairperson of the National Commission for Women - Rekha Sharma

10. Who is serving as the current Chairman of the Kerala Sahitya Academy?

**Vaisakhan**

- ◆ The current Chairman of the Kerala Folklore Academy - C. J. Kuttappan

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- ◆ The Chairperson of the Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Academy - KPAC Lalitha
  - ◆ The Chairman of the Kerala Lalithakala Academy - Nemom Pushparaj
11. Who is serving as the current Chief Information Commissioner of Kerala?

**Vinson M. Paul**

- ◆ The Chief Information Commissioner of India - Radha Krishna Mathu
12. Name the integrated digital banking platform launched by the SBI to enable users to access a variety of financial and other services.

**YONO (You Only Need One)**

- ◆ The present chairman of SBI - Rajnish Kumar
13. Which is the cleanest city from Kerala according to the Swachh Survekshan 2017?

**Kozhikode**

- ◆ The second city from Kerala - Kochi
  - ◆ The City that tops the list of most prosperous cities in India according to the study of the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) on behalf of the ADB - Kochi
14. Who is the first woman lawyer to be directly appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court?

**Indu Malhotra**

- ◆ Justice R. Banumathi and Indu Malhotra are the current sitting women judges in the Supreme Court.
15. Who chaired the nine-judge Constitutional bench which declared that the Right to Privacy is a fundamental right?

**Justice Jagdish Singh Khehar/ J.S. Khehar**

- ◆ Right to Privacy is included in Article 21.

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16. Which year is observed as National Year of Millets?

**2018**

◆ International Year of Indigenous Languages - 2019

17. What is the scientific name of the state fruit of Kerala?

**Artocarpus heterophyllus**

◆ Jackfruit is declared as the national fruit of Kerala (on March 21, 2018).

◆ The Centre for Jackfruit Research is established at Ambalavayal (in Wayanad).

18. Which festival of India is recognised as the Intangible Cultural Heritage by the UNESCO?

**Kumbh Mela**

◆ The headquarters of the UNESCO - Paris

◆ The incumbent Director-General of UNESCO - Audrey Azoulay

19. Which tree is declared as the official tree of Goa?

**Coconut tree**

◆ The coconut tree is the official tree of Kerala and Goa.

◆ The scientific name of coconut tree - *Cocos nucifera*

20. Name the scheme introduced by the P.M. Narendra Modi to make air travel much cheaper in smaller cities in India.

**UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik)**

21. Who is the director of the first Sanskrit 3D film in the world?

**Asokan P.K.**

◆ 'Anurakthi' is the first Sanskrit 3D film in the world.

◆ The director of the film 'Newton', which has been selected as India's official entry for Oscars - Amit V. Masurkar

22. What is titled as the celebrations of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's visit to Kerala?

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### **Vivekananda Sparsham**

◆ Swami Vivekananda visited Kerala in 1892.

23. Which country has the largest number of Indian migrants according to the new UN report?

### **The United Arab Emirates (UAE)**

◆ India tops the world in the number of migrants sent abroad.

24. Who is the incumbent Chief Justice of Kerala?

### **Justice Antony Dominic**

◆ Justice K.T. Koshi was appointed the first Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala.

25. Who is the present Vigilance Director of Kerala?

### **Nirmal Chandra Asthana**

◆ The Anglo-Indian representative to the 14<sup>th</sup> Kerala Legislative Assembly - John Fernandez

26. In which place in India was the naval maritime aircraft museum inaugurated by the President Ram Nath Kovind?

### **Visakhapatnam**

◆ The Union Territory in India that has recently launched the tourist-friendly police force - Puduchery

27. Who is the new Chairman of the Kerala State Film Academy?

### **Kamal**

◆ The Chairman of the Kerala State Film Development Corporation - Lenin Rajendran

28. Who has been appointed the Chairman of the 21<sup>st</sup> Law Commission of India?

### **Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan**

◆ The new Vice-Chancellor of the Kerala Kalamandalam - T.K.

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Narayanan

- ◆ The present Chancellor of the Kerala Kalamandalam - P. Sathasivam (The Governor of Kerala)

29. Which is India's fastest and first multi-petaflops (PF) supercomputer?

**Pratyush**

- ◆ Pratyush is the fourth fastest super-computer in the world dedicated for weather and climate research.

30. Name the first Asian to win the Golden Globe award for the best actor.

**Aziz Ansari (Indian-origin)**

- ◆ The first Indian to win the Golden Globe award - A.R. Rahman (for the best original music score for Danny Boyle's 'Slumdog Millionaire')

31. Which is the capital of Andhra Pradesh?

**Amaravati**

- ◆ Andhra Pradesh plans to introduce 'Bhoodhar card' for a digital record of each individual's land holdings with a particular number.
- ◆ Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh - N. Chandrababu Naidu

32. Who has become the 45th Chief Justice of India, Justice J. S. Khehar?

**Justice Dipak Misra**

- ◆ Justice Dipak Misra headed the constitutional bench of the Supreme Court to announce playing the national anthem before screening movies in cinema halls is not mandatory.

33. Which is the first all-women railway station in India to enter the Limca Book of Records?

**Matunga Railway Station (Mumbai)**

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- ◆ India's first non suburban railway station fully operated by women staff - Gandhinagar railway station (Jaipur)

34. Who has been appointed the new UPSC Chairman?

**Vinay Mittal**

- ◆ The new Chairman of UGC - Prof. Dhirendra Pal Singh

35. Who is the present permanent representative of India to the UN?

**Syed Akbaruddin**

- ◆ The Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India - Sailesh I.A.S.

36. Who is the present Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of India?

**Dr. Sekhar Basu**

- ◆ The Central Vigilance Commissioner of India - K.V. Chowdary

37. Name the first Indian American to be elected to the U.S. senate.

**Kamala Harris**

- ◆ The president of the Kendra Sahitya Akademi - **Chandrashekhara Kambara (Kannada writer and Jnanpith recipient)**

- ◆ He has won the Kadammanitta Ramakrishnan award for the year 2018.

38. Name the union ministry of India which launched the scheme 'Saksham 2018'.

**Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**

- ◆ Saksham aims at creating focused attention on fuel conservation through people centric activities and efficient use of petroleum products leading to better health and environment.
- ◆ Present minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas - Dharmendra

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Pradhan

39. Which is the second best UNESCO world heritage site in the world according to the new survey by a travel portal TripAdvisor?

**Taj Mahal**

◆ According to this survey Cambodia's Angkor Wat is the best UNESCO world heritage site in the world.

40. Who has been awarded India's highest peacetime military decoration posthumously in 2018?

**Corporal Jyoti Prakash Nirala**

◆ Ashok Chakra is the highest peacetime military decoration of India.

41. Who is the present Chairman of the Kendra Sangeet Natak Akademi?

**Shekhar Sen**

◆ The Chairman of the Kendra Lalit Kala Akademi - Kalyan Kumar Chakravarty

42. Who is the Chief Election Commissioner of India?

**Om Prakash Rawat**

◆ The Election Commissioners of India - Sunil Arora, Ashok Lavasa

◆ The Chairman of ISRO - **K. Sivan**

43. Who is the new Secretary General of Lok Sabha?

**Snehlata Shrivastava**

◆ She is the first woman Secretary General of the Lok Sabha.

44. Who is the present Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha?

**P.J. Kurien**

◆ The present Secretary General of the Rajya Sabha - Desh Deepak Verma

45. Name the first indigenously developed vaccine from India to be pre-qualified by World Health Organisation (WHO).

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## Rotavac

- ◆ The Rotavac vaccine protects against childhood diarrhoea caused by the rotavirus.
46. Where has India's first national park for differently abled people been inaugurated?

## Hyderabad (in Telangana)

- ◆ The state that has recently been declared as 'disturbed area' for next six months till June-end, under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act / AFSPA - Nagaland
47. In which state will the second Film and Television Institute of India be set up?

## Arunachal Pradesh

- ◆ India's first Film and Television Institute was established in Pune.
48. Which article of the Constitution deals with the right to die peacefully and with dignity (passive euthanasia)?

## Article 21

- ◆ A constitution bench, led by Dipak Misra upheld that the fundamental right to life and dignity includes right to refuse treatment and die with dignity.
  - ◆ The first country in the world to legalise euthanasia - Netherlands
49. Who is the present Comptroller and Auditor General of India?

## Rajiv Mehrishi

- ◆ The first Comptroller and Auditor General of India - V. Narahari Rao
50. Who is the first female President of Singapore?

## Halimah Yacob

- ◆ Angela Merkel has been elected as the Chancellor of Germany for the fourth time.

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51. Which rebellion was named as the first War of Independence against British Rule in history books from next academic session by the Union Government?

### **Paika Rebellion**

◆ Paika Rebellion was held in 1817 in Odisha.

52. Name the passenger train service between Kolkata and Bangladesh's Khulna was inaugurated on November 9, 2017.

### **Bandhan Express**

◆ Maitree Express runs between Dhaka and Kolkata.

53. From which bacterial eye infection is India free now?

### **Trachoma**

54. Name the temple from India to win the UNESCO Asia Pacific Award of Merit 2017 for cultural heritage conservation.

### **Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple (in Tamil Nadu)**

55. In which state in India is the first green field smart city launched?

### **Jharkhand**

◆ The first advanced Homoeopathy Virology lab in India has recently been inaugurated in Kolkata.

56. Name the Indian paediatrician to be appointed as the Deputy Director General for Programmes (DDP) of the WHO.

### **Dr. Soumya Swaminathan**

◆ The Director General of the WHO - Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

57. With the help of which country will India's first bullet train project 'MAHSR corridor' be built?

### **Japan**

◆ It runs between Mumbai-Ahmedabad.

◆ Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and PM Narendra Modi were

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jointly inaugurated the bullet train project.

- ◆ The train will start operating on August 15, 2022, when India completes 75 years of independence.
58. Name the uninhabited island of Lakshadweep which has disappeared due to coastal erosion.

### **Parali I**

- ◆ The total number of islands in Lakshadweep - 36 (at present 35)
59. Who has headed the constitutional bench of Supreme Court which declared that the practice of Triple Talaq is 'void, illegal and unconstitutional'?

### **Justice Jagdish Singh Khehar (then CJI)**

- ◆ The book 'Triple Talaq: Examining Faith' was written by Salman Khurshid.
60. Which state government has launched 'Indira Canteen' for urban poor?

### **Karnataka**

- ◆ Karnataka state government has also decided to make education free for all girls from Class 1 to graduation level in all public and aided private schools and colleges.
- ◆ The subsidised scooter scheme to be launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu for working women on the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations of late leader Jayalalitha - Amma Scooter Scheme

61. Which is the first fully Indian made train?

### **Medha**

62. Name the exclusive indigenous nature channel to be launched by Doordarshan.

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## **DD Prakriti**

- ◆ A new 24x7 satellite television channel of Doordarshan for the north-eastern region - DD Arun Prabha

63. Who were the chief guests of the 69<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of 2018?

### **The leaders of all the ten ASEAN countries**

- ◆ The first country in the world to legalise equal pay between men and women - Iceland

64. What is the name of a supercluster of galaxies discovered by a team of Indian astronomers?

## **Saraswati**

65. In which country is Hambantota International port situated?

## **Sri Lanka**

- ◆ This port has been handed over to China by Sri Lanka for 99 year lease.

66. Who is the CEO of Ayushman Bharat?

## **Indu Bhushan**

- ◆ The national health protection scheme which covers over 10 crore poor and vulnerable families providing coverage upto 5 lakh rupees per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization - Ayushman Bharat

67. Name the model school announced by the Union Finance minister Arun Jaitley in the Union budget in 2018 for SC and ST students by 2022.

## **Eklavya**

- ◆ The scheme announced in the Union budget 2018, called 'operation green', which aims to aid farmers and help control and limit erratic fluctuations in the prices of tomatoes, onions and potatoes (TOP).

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68. On whose birth centenary celebrations were the commemorative coins of Rs. 100 and Rs. 5 denominations released in 2017?

**M.G. Ramachandran**

◆ He was awarded the Bharat Ratna posthumously in 1988.

69. Name the first indigenous unmanned tank of India developed by DRDO.

**Muntra**

70. According to a census by the RBI, which country is the the biggest investor of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India?

**Mauritius**

◆ The countries which participate the joint military exercise named *Iron Fist* - America and Japan

71. Name the Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change.

**Dr. Harsh Vardhan**

◆ The programme launched by the Environment Ministry of India which aims the students to give awareness about global warming and climate change - Green deed Campaign

72. Who is the Indian person to be conferred the 'Grand Collar of the State of Palestine', the highest Palestinian honour for foreign dignitaries?

**Narendra Modi**

73. Which state has topped the Health Index Progressive Report released by NITI Aayog?

**Kerala**

◆ The state which has launched nutrition scheme for children affected by HIV - Himachal Pradesh

74. Which is the wealthiest Indian city in the world according to the re-

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port by New World Wealth?

### **Mumbai (12<sup>th</sup> wealthiest city in the world)**

◆ New York tops the list.

75. Which country has banded together with India plans to host the Bi-lateral Exercise 'Varuna'?

### **France**

◆ The first phase of Indo-French joint naval exercise 'Varuna 2018' has started in Goa.

76. Who has been appointed the chairman of the newly formed Finance Commission by Indian Olympic Association (IOA)?

### **Anil Khanna**

◆ The incumbent chairman of Indian Olympic Association (IOA) - Narinder Batra

77. Name the political part launched by Kamal Haasan.

### **Makkal Needhi Maiam**

◆ The symbol of 'Makkal Needhi Maiam' - The six 'enjoining hands'

78. Which country has appointed a Minister for Loneliness?

### **Britain**

◆ The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom - Theresa May

79. Which country is the global host of 2018 world environment day?

### **India**

◆ World environment day - June 5

◆ The theme of 2018 world environment day - Beat Plastic Pollution

80. Which is the second largest mobile phone producing country in the world?

### **India**

◆ First position - China

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81. What is the colour of 'Baal Aadhaar'?

**Blue**

◆ Baal Aadhaar - The Aadhaar card for a child below 5 years of age

82. Who is the present Secretary General of SAARC?

**Amjed Hussain**

◆ The headquarters of SAARC - Kathmandu (Nepal)

83. In which state is India's longest elevated road constructed?

**Uttar Pradesh (Hindon Elevated Road, 10.5 km)**

◆ India's first insect museum was inaugurated in Tamil Nadu.

84. Which is the first country in the world to grant citizenship to a robot?

**Saudi Arabia**

◆ The robot is named 'Sophia' to be developed by Hong Kong based company 'Hanson Robotics'.

85. In which country has the Asia's largest tulip garden been opened?

**India (in Kashmir)**

◆ The first metro city in India to have a floating market - Kolkata

86. From where did India testfire the Brahmos supersonic cruise missile with an indigenous seeker?

**Pokhran in Rajasthan**

◆ The Supersonic cruise missile BrahMos is a joint collaboration between India and Russia.

87. In which state has the world's longest sandstone cave been discovered?

**Meghalaya**

◆ Krem Puri is the the world's longest sandstone cave.

88. Which state government has recently launched Water ATM policy

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for urban areas?

### **Haryana**

- ◆ The city in which India's tallest tricolour flag is hoisted - Belgavi / Belgaum

89. Which state has won the 'Best Tourism State' national award 2017?

### **Madhya Pradesh**

90. Who is the incumbent Secretary General of UN?

### **Antonio Guterres**

- ◆ The South Asian country to inform the UN Secretary-General of its intention to withdraw from the International Criminal Court (ICC) - Philippines
- ◆ The headquarters of ICC - The Hague in the Netherlands

91. Who is the newly appointed Chief Minister of Tripura?

### **Biplab Kumar Deb (BJP)**

- ◆ The incumbent Chief Minister of Meghalaya - Conrad Sangma (National People's Party/ NPP)
92. Which country has approved the removal of the two-term limit on the presidency by amending of its Constitution?

### **China**

- ◆ By this amendment Xi Jinping was reelected the President of China with no limit on the number of terms he can serve.
- ◆ The President of Russia, the world's largest country - Vladimir Putin (for a fourth term)

93. Who is the present Prime Minister of Nepal?

### **Khadga Prasad Oli**

- ◆ The Asian country to get get the one day international status re-

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cently - Nepal

94. Name the nation to pay bonus to all citizens after surplus budget.

**Singapore**

◆ The Singapore government has confirmed plans to implement a carbon tax from 2019.

95. Which is named as the World Book Capital for 2018 by the UNESCO?

**Athens**

◆ 2017 - Conakry (the capital of the Republic of Guinea)

◆ 2019 - Sharjah

96. Who is the first Indian woman to be elected to the International Olympic Committee?

**Nita Ambani**

◆ The current President of the International Olympic Committee - Thomas Bach

97. Where is Asia's largest man-made 'Jungle Safari Park' inaugurated?

**Naya Raipur (Chhattisgarh)**

98. Where was the world's largest wooden charkha unveiled?

**Indira Gandhi International Airport (New Delhi)**

99. Who has been selected for the Time Person of the year 2017?

**The Silence Breakers**

◆ The Silence Breakers are the woman and men who have come forward to shed light on sexual harassment and abuse in America.

100. Which is the first country to withdraw from the membership of the International Criminal Court (ICC)?

**Burundi**

◆ The world's first Bollywood theme park is opened in Dubai.

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