

# Current Affairs 6 January 2019 with PDF

## Banking and Finance

### *ICICI Bank, Small Business FinCredit India to finance MSMEs*

- **ICICI Bank has announced that it has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Small Business FinCredit India (SBFC), a NBFC (Non-Banking Finance Company) for entrepreneurs, to jointly provide credit to MSMEs (micro, small and medium enterprises).**
- “The partnership has been forged under the aegis of RBI’s circular dated September 21 last year that permits banks to engage with a NBFC to co-originate loans for the creation of priority sector assets,” ICICI Bank said.
- **The agreement enables MSMEs to obtain loans up to Rs 1 crore for a tenure of 15 years.** Under this arrangement, ICICI Bank will co-originate loan against property with SBFC at a mutually agreed ratio. “The flow of funds from ICICI Bank will help customers aid their businesses,” the bank said.

### *Nitin Gadkari lays foundation stone of 6 road projects in Jodhpur*

- **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid foundation of six road projects worth 6,000 crore rupees in border areas of Jodhpur** on Saturday.
- He claimed that none of the roads will have any pothole for next 150-200 years.
- Mr Gadkari said that his emphasis has always been on quality in work, reduction of cost, timely completion of projects and bringing new technology in road and bridge construction.
- **The minister dedicated works worth 2,000 crore rupees to the nation after their completion and laid foundation for some projects worth 4,000 crore rupees.**

### *Nepal writes to RBI to declare banned new Indian currency notes legal*

- **Nepal has asked the RBI to declare newly circulated Indian currency notes of denominations higher than Rs 100 legal tender in the country,** according to media report on Sunday.
- **The Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB),** the country's central monetary authority, has written a letter on Friday to the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI), asking it to make Indian bank bills Rs 200, Rs 500 and Rs 2,000 legal tender in Nepal,** The Himalayan Times reported.
- The NRB has asked the **India's central bank to issue a notification under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA),** which will make Indian bank notes of denomination more than Rs 100 legal tender in Nepal and to provide the exchange facilities to get bills of such denominations, it said.

## India and states

### ***Govt allocates Rs 10,900 cr for development of 40 satellite launch vehicles in next 4-years: ISRO Chairman***

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman Dr K Sivan has said that the **Union Government has allocated 10,900 crore rupees for the development of 40 satellite launch vehicles in the next four years.**
- He was delivering the graduation Day lecture at the historic St Joseph's College, Trichy, Tamilnadu, which is celebrating its 175th anniversary.
- Dr Sivan said that **Chandrayan Mission will be launched within three months.**
- It will land in one part of the Moon which is still unexplored. **He also said that the human space flight Gaganyaan is planned to be launched by 2022,** the 75th anniversary of Independence.

### ***Secunderabad rly station first in SCR zone to hoist tricolour***

- **Secunderabad Railway Station became the first railway station of South Central Railway (SCR) zone to hoist a huge tricolour on a 100-foot tall pole** at its main entrance here Wednesday.
- This is in keeping with the directive of the Railway Board to hoist the national flag at **A1 category railway stations.**
- The flag is an effort of Secunderabad division to rekindle the spirit of nationalism and instil a sense of pride among rail passengers, a press release from the South Central Railway said here.
- **The tricolour was unfurled by senior cabin man R Ashoka Chary and senior technician Gopal Reddy.**

### ***International Kite Festival kicks off in Ahmedabad***

- In Gujarat, **the nine-day long international kite festival kicked off at Sabarmati River Front in Ahmedabad this morning.**
- Addressing the inaugural ceremony, Chief Minister Vijay Rupani said, development is touching new heights in Gujarat.
- Governor OP Kohli said, kites give a message to people of achieving new heights.
- **More than 150 kite fliers from 45 countries are participating in this edition of the festival.**
- About 500 kite fliers 13 different states of the country and 19 cities of Gujarat are also taking part.
- The festival is also planned at **Vadodara, Kevadiya, Dwaraka, Surat, Rajkot, Jetpur, Songadh, Saputara and Dhordo in the coming days.**

### ***In Railways' Airport-Like Plan, No Boarding 20 Minutes Before Departures***

- **The railways is planning to seal train stations just like how airports function, and passengers will have to arrive 15-20 minutes before scheduled departure of trains** to complete the process of security checks.
- **The security plan - with high-end technology - has already been put in motion at Prayagraj, in anticipation of the Kumbh Mela which begins this month and at Hoobly railway station in**

**Karnataka** with a blueprint for 202 more stations ready for implementation, Railway Protection Force Director General Arun Kumar said.

### ***Odisha Agriculture Minister Pradeep Maharathy resigns***

- **Odisha Agriculture Minister Pradeep Maharathy resigned** today after he stoked a controversy for his remarks on the acquittal of the accused in a gang rape-and-murder case of 2011-2012. Quoting sources, AIR correspondent reports that Maharathy has sent his resignation letter to the chief minister's office.
- The development came a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while addressing a public meeting at Baripada yesterday, accused the Odisha government of not being serious about the welfare of women and girls. Mr Modi had urged the state government to re-investigate the Pipili gang rape-and-murder case.

### ***Govt notifies High-Level Committee for implementation of Clause VI of Assam Accord***

- **The government has notified a High-Level Committee for implementation of Clause six of the Assam Accord.**
- The clause envisaged that appropriate constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards, should be provided to protect, preserve and promote the cultural, social, linguistic identity and heritage of the people of Assam.
- **The nine-member committee, comprising of eminent Assamese persons from different fields, is headed by former bureaucrat MP Bezbaruah.** The committee will examine the effectiveness of actions **since 1985 to implement Clause 6 of the Assam Accord.**
- It will hold discussions with all stakeholders and assess the required quantum of reservation of seats in the State Assembly and local bodies for the people of the state.

## **Sports**

### ***Sunil Chhetri strikes twice in India's first Asian Cup win since 1964***

- **India kicked-off their AFC Asian Cup campaign on a high as the Blue Tigers secured a thumping 4-1 win over Thailand.** A brace from Bengaluru FC skipper Sunil Chhetri and a goal each from Anirudh Thapa and Mizo sniper Jeje Lalpekhlua rounded **India's first win in the tournament since 1964.**
- In a game which lived up to its hype, it was an evenly matched first half after which the Blue Tigers decimated their opponents in the final 45 mins and open their account with three crucial points.

## **World**

### ***In historic first, Malaysia's king Sultan Muhammad V steps down***

- **Malaysia's king has abdicated, royal officials said Sunday, in a historic first for the country** that ended weeks of speculation about his future after he took medical leave.
- **Sultan Muhammad V's decision marks the first time a king has abdicated in the Muslim-majority** country since it gained independence from Britain in 1957.
- The rotating monarchy system has been in place since independence from Britain in 1957, and **Sultan Muhammad V is the first monarch to have renounced the throne.** Sultan Muhammad V studied at St Cross College at Oxford and the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, according to official media.