

Financial One Liner Current Affairs

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in February, 2019 removed three public sector banks from the prompt corrective action (PCA) framework, allowing them to carry on normal business, especially lending. The three banks are Bank of India (BoI), Bank of Maharashtra (Mahabank), and Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC).
- The government in February, 2019 revised the economic growth rate upwards to 7.2 per cent for 2017-18 from the 6.7 per cent estimated earlier.
- The HDFC Bank in February, 2019 joined hands with the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A) to launch its first regional DIS Summit, a platform for start-ups to showcase their innovations to power the bank's growth.
- The Defence Acquisitions Council, DAC chaired by Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman approved indigenous construction of six submarines worth 40 thousand crore rupees.
- The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs approved the construction of another 4,78,670 more affordable houses for the benefit of urban poor under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).
- IT major Mphasis in February, 2019 partnered with NASSCOM to felicitate best in class AI start-ups at the upcoming NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum 2019.
- Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal presented an Interim Budget for 2019 in Parliament in February, 2019.
- The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank Group have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for climate change and conservation of the environment. The Rs 7000 crore MOU was signed in February, 2019.
- Yes Bank senior group president and head - retail and business banking Pralay Mondal has tendered his resignation.
- Three Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) sponsored by the public sector Indian Bank were amalgamated and renamed as 'Tamil Nadu Grama Bank', with its Head Office in Salem.
- On the 4th day of MSME International Trade Fair-2019, the session on "Promoting Women Entrepreneurship" received an overwhelming participation from more than 300 women entrepreneurs, exporters and startups.
- To ensure due compliance of the FDI policy on e-Commerce, Press Note 2 (2018) was issued.
- After receiving overwhelming response to its YONO (You Only Need One) app, the country's largest lender, State Bank of India, now plans to launch YONO Krishi and YONO Global apps in April, according to its chairman Rajnish Kumar.
- Government in February, 2019 decided to launch a campaign to saturate farmers for financial inclusion under Kisan Credit Cards (KCC).
- Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is empowering women entrepreneurs through its different schemes.
- MG Motor India has signed a MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the country's largest public sector lender State Bank of India, for the latter's Electronic Dealer Finance Scheme (e-DFS).
- Yes Bank, India's fourth largest private sector Bank, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MG Motor India, a British automotive company headquartered in Birmingham, United Kingdom, to enter into a strategic financing partnership.
- ICICI Bank announced in February, 2019 that it has launched a range of fixed deposits (FDs) and recurring deposits (RDs) called FD Xtra.
- India, eyeing a bigger role in Eurasia and Afghanistan amid prevailing geopolitics, has signed a memorandum of understanding with Russia for fast-tracking International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC) that will enable a smoother connectivity to the region via Iran.
- Chinese smartphone player Oppo in February, 2019 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Telangana government to support and develop the startup ecosystem in the state.

- In a major policy shift, the six-member **monetary policy committee (MPC)** headed by **Governor Shaktikanta Das** in **February, 2019** lower the repo rate by **25 basis points** to **6.25 per cent** in **4-2 vote**. RBI has thus cut rate for the first time in 17 months. The last rate cut happened in August, 2017.
- **Kerala** became the first State to set up a **Price Monitoring and Research Unit (PMRU)** to track violation of prices of essential drugs and medical devices under the **Drugs Price Control Order (DPCO)**.
- **The Cabinet** has approved a proposal for **Official Amendments to Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2018**.
- **The government** allowed export of **bio-fuels** from **Special Economic Zones (SEZs)** and **export-oriented units (EoUs)** with certain conditions.
- **Union Minister of Textiles Smriti Irani** launched the **India Size** project in **Mumbai** in **February, 2019**.
- The Union Cabinet approved the introduction of **National Institutes of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management Bill, 2019** in the **Parliament**.
- The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs approved the proposal for continuation of the **Scheme of "Exploration of Coal and Lignite"** with an **expected expenditure of Rs.1875 Crore**.
- **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** approved the proposal of **Ministry of New & Renewable Energy** for implementation of the **Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) Scheme Phase-II** for setting up **12,000 MW grid-connected Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power Projects**.
- **The Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs** approved creation of a corpus of **Rs. 2000 crore** for **Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund (AMIF)** to be created with **NABARD** for development and up-gradation of agricultural marketing infrastructure in **Gramin Agricultural Markets** and **Regulated Wholesale Markets**.

Non-financial One Liner Current Affairs

- **Minister of Railways, Piyush Goyal** on **January 30, 2019** launched the **"The Future of Rail"** report of the **International Energy Agency (IEA)**.
- **PETROTECH-2019**, the **13th International Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition**, being organised under the aegis of the **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas**, is all set to be inaugurated on **February 10, 2019**.
- **Microsoft** signed an **MoU** with the **Sikkim Government** to revamp the educational system in the state.
- **Air India** announced to resume its services from **New Delhi** to the holy city of **Najaf** in **Iraq** after **25 years**.
- **An international body** and a **Tata Trusts-backed collaboration** have signed an **MoU** to accelerate the roll-out of new, people-centred innovations in the **fight against tuberculosis (TB)** in **India** and **other countries**.
- **BioChem USA** and **Department of Industries, Government of Gujarat** in **February, 2019** *signed an MoU in the presence of Chief Minister Vijay Rupani for setting up of a Biorefinery in Dahej Petroleum Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Region (PCPIR) at an estimated investment of Rs 3000 crores.*
- **Union Minister of Railways & Coal Piyush Goyal** was on **January 30, 2019** formally conferred with the **fourth annual Carnot Prize** by the **Kleinman Center for Energy Policy** at the **University of Pennsylvania School of Design** in **New Delhi**.
- **The Dabur India Ltd board** has approved the appointment of **Mohit Malhotra** as the company's **New Chief Executive Officer** with effect from **April 1, 2019**.
- In **Bihar**, **Gupteshwar Pandey** in **February, 2019** appointed as new **Director General of Police (DGP)**.
- **Gujarat government** has announced an increase in **Dearness allowance** of more than **9.61 lakh employees and pensioners** by **2 per cent**.
- **The United Nations Security Council** has adopted a resolution to extend sanctions against the **Central African Republic (CAR)** for another year.
- **The United States** has urged **Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro** to accept an **amnesty offer** from **opposition leader Juan Guaido**, whom **Washington** has recognised as **President**.
- **Scientists** have first time created an **artificial intelligence (AI) based system** that directly translates thoughts into **intelligible, recognisable speech**.

- **India captain Mithali Raj in February, 2019 became the first female cricketer to play 200 ODIs**, adding another achievement to her illustrious career.
- **In Chess, five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand had to be content with a joint third-place finish after settling for a draw with compatriot Vidit Gujrathi** in the 13th and final round of the Tata Steel Masters at Wijk Aan Zee, the Netherlands.
- **India in February, 2019 appointed Sanjiv Ranjan as its new Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia**, Ministry of External Affairs announced in February, 2019.
- **Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar P in February, 2019 took over as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command in Mumbai.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi in February, 2019 visited all the three regions of Kashmir, Jammu & Ladakh to inaugurate and lay foundation stones for various development projects.**
- **PM Modi dedicated to the nation the railway electrification of the 294-km-long Andal-Sainthia-Pakur-Malda and the Khana-Sainthia sections.**
- **NBCC, a Navratna Central Public Sector Enterprises, will construct an Ayurveda and Naturopathy hospital in Goa at a cost of over 267 crore rupees.**
- **The Andhra Pradesh High Court new building at Amaravathy, was inaugurated in February, 2019 by the Chief Justice of India, Ranjan Gogoi.** It's after functioning from Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister's Camp Office for over a month's time, the AP High Court in February, 2019 moved to a new building at Amaravathy on a temporary basis.
- **P V Bharathi, executive director of Canara Bank, has assumed charge as managing director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the city-based Corporation Bank**, a statement said.
- **Rishi Kumar Shukla, 1983 batch IPS officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre, was on February 2, 2019 appointed as the new chief of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).**
- **Former Law Minister of Nepal Nilambar Acharya has been appointed as country's ambassador to India.**
- **Pope Francis landed in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), on a historic visit, becoming the first pontiff to visit the Arabian peninsula.** He was received at the airport by the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed.
- **Aged just 16 years and 146 days, Nepal's Rohit Paudel became the youngest male player to record a half-century in international cricket** when he hit 55 in 58 balls in a One-Day International against the UAE in February, 2019 (January 26).
- **Nepal's Sundeep Jora became the youngest cricketer to score a half-century in T20 Internationals.**
- **The World Cancer Day 2019 was observed across the world on February 4, 2019 with theme "I Am and I Will".**
- **The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on January 31, 2019 unveiled its Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC) at ISRO Headquarter campus in Bengaluru, Karnataka for its maiden manned space mission 'Gaganyaan'.**
- **The Union Ministry of Coal on February 4, 2019 signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Ministry of Energy, Republic of Poland in New Delhi on cooperation in the field of coal mining.**
- **Union Minister of State for Railways and Communication, Manoj Sinha released a special postage stamp of the Indian Postal Department on Kumbh Mela.**
- **UK Home Secretary Sajid Javid in February, 2019 ordered the extradition of Vijay Mallya to India, in a major blow to the embattled liquor baron.**
- **External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari in February, 2019 flagged off Suraksha Yatra - a motor car rally from Rajghat in New Delhi to commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.** The flag off was also part of an event to launch the 30th National Road Safety Week.
- **Sri Lanka celebrated its 71st Independence Day on February 4, 2019 in Colombo.**
- **Veteran Marathi actor Ramesh Bhatkar passed away in February, 2019 after a battle with cancer.**

- **The Delhi government in February, 2019 kicked off its pilot project of creating Delhi's first 'zero fatality corridor'** while also issuing actionable points to all agencies to ensure a 10% reduction in road accidents by the end of the year.
- **The Maharashtra government has set up a committee to review various schemes being implemented for the welfare of tribals in the state.**
- **The Union Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in February 2019 launched the Shehri Samridhi Utsav**, an initiative that aims to extend the outreach of Deendayal Antyodaya Mission – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) to the most vulnerable.
- **Indian Space Research Organisation's latest communication satellite, GSAT-31** was successfully launched by Arianespace aboard its launch vehicle Ariane 5 from the spaceport in French Guiana on February 5, 2019.
- **The United States President Donald Trump has nominated acting Interior Secretary David Bernhardt as the new Interior Secretary.**
- **Former mayor of San Salvador, Nayib Bukele has claimed victory in the El Salvador's presidential election.**
- **The United Kingdom along with other European nations such as Germany and France on January 31, 2019 set up a new transaction channel called 'INSTEX'** that will allow companies to continue trading with Iran despite US sanctions.
- **The Iranian Judiciary Chief Amoli Larijani on February 4, 2019 said that 50,000 convicts will receive pardons from Leader Ayatollah Khamenei** on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution.
- **President Donald Trump announced on February 5, 2019 that he will hold the second summit with the North Korean leader, Kim Jong Un in Vietnam on February 27-28, 2019** as part of his administration's endeavours to denuclearise North Korea.
- **International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation observed globally on 6 February, 2019.** The theme observed for 2019 was #EndFGM and #Womenmatter.
- **The Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) on February 6, 2019 launched the 'Darwaza Band -Part 2' campaign for sustainability of the Open Defecation Free (ODF) status of villages across the country.**
- **India and Germany have joined hands for cooperation on Water and Waste Management.**
- **The second foreign office consultations between India and New Zealand was held in February, 2019 in New Delhi.**
- **The Cabinet has approved amendments to the Cinematograph Act, 1952 to tackle film piracy and Copyright infringement.**
- **The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for the establishment of Rashtriya Kamdhenu Aayog for conservation, protection and development of cows and their progeny.**
- **The Union Cabinet approved the establishment of Circuit Bench of Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri.**
- **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the Proposal of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting regarding Prasar Bharati's "Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development" scheme at a cost of Rs.1054.52 crore for 3 years (2017-18 to 2019-20).**
- **The government in February, 2019 formally cleared the proposal to promote Praveen Sinha, a 1988-batch Gujarat cadre officer working in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) as a joint director, as additional director in the agency.**
- **Air India Chief Pradeep Singh Kharola was appointed as the Civil Aviation Secretary as part of a minor bureaucratic reshuffle.**
- **The President, Ram Nath Kovind conferred the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for the year 2017 on February 6, 2019 at Rashtrapati Bhawan during a special investiture ceremony.**