

# One Liner Current Affairs January 2019 – Week 1

## Financial One Liner Current Affairs

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in January, 2019 allowed lenders to recast loans of stressed micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) provided that the total fund and non-fund based exposure to such borrowers is up to Rs 25 crore.
- Paytm Payments Bank, which was asked to halt on-boarding of new customers six months ago, is learnt to have resumed the process for signing up new customers after receiving the go-ahead by the Reserve Bank of India.
- The Reserve Bank In January, 2019 set up an expert committee under former Sebi chairman U K Sinha to suggest long-term solutions for the economic and financial sustainability of the MSME sector.
- The government on In January, 2019 approved the merger of Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank with Bank of Baroda (BoB) to make it a globally competitive lender.
- The government In January, 2019 decided to provide 3 per cent interest subsidy to merchant exporters, entailing an expenditure of Rs 600 crore, to enhance liquidity with a view to boosting outbound shipments.
- The decision was taken by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.
- The printing of Rs 2000 banknote, introduced post-demonetisation in November 2016, has been reduced to the "minimum" by the Reserve Bank, a top finance ministry official said In January, 2019.
- HDFC Mutual Fund has piped ICICI Prudential MF to become the country's largest asset management company after a gap of over two years.
- Markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has allowed custodial services in the commodity derivatives market.
- The government on January 3, 2019 said that coal stock and coal supply to power plants has been increased to meet the energy demands in the country.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 4, 2019 inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 12 development projects worth Rs 1,500 crore in Manipur.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended its customer protection framework in cases of payment frauds or unauthorised transactions to the users of authorised prepaid payment instruments (PPIs).
- A special court in Mumbai declared absconding liquor baron Vijay Mallya a fugitive economic offender (FEO) on a plea of the Enforcement Directorate. Mallya has become the first businessman to be declared EFO under the provisions of the new Fugitive Economic Offenders Act which came into existence in August last year.
- Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for cross-border merger of Reliance Holding USA Inc, a wholly owned, step-down subsidiary of RIL with Reliance Energy Generation and Distribution Ltd (REGDL), the company said in a regulatory filing in January, 2019.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid foundation stone of revival of six irrigation projects, including North Koel (Mandal Dam) project amounting to 2,500 crore rupees and Kanhar Stone Pipeline irrigation system.
- The Centre has amalgamated three Regional Rural Banks (RRB) -- Punjab Gramin Bank, Malwa Gramin Bank and Sutlej Gramin Bank -- into a single RRB with effect from January 1.

- **United Bank of India and Srei Equipment Finance** have entered into an agreement for financing the MSME and agriculture sectors.
- **Government has recently changed interest rates on some selected small scheme savings scheme.** According to the revised rates, investment in time deposits of **one-year, two-year and three-year maturity periods will now fetch interest at the rate of 7 per cent in the quarter ending March 31, 2019.**
- **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).
- **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid foundation of six road projects worth 6,000 crore rupees in border areas of Jodhpur** in January, 2019.
- **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 in January, 2019.
- **India's GDP (gross domestic product) is estimated to grow at 7.2 per cent in 2018-19 compared to 6.7 per cent attained during the previous fiscal,** official data showed in January, 2019.
- **Bandhan Bank Ltd will buy mortgage provider Gruh Finance Ltd in a share-swap deal to build up its housing loan portfolio,** the companies said in January, 2019.
- **Kerala is setting up the country's largest Integrated Startup Complex, which will house a Maker Village, Bionest, and BRINC,** the country's first international accelerator for Hardware startups, among other facilities.

## Non-financial One Liner Current Affairs

- **Vinod Kumar Yadav,** general manager South Central railway, **has been appointed as chairman, Railway Board (Ministry of Railways)** and ex-officio Principal Secretary to Government of India.
- The government has appointed **Sudhir Bhargava as new Chief Information Commissioner along with four new Information Commissioners in the Central Information Commission (CIC)** which had been functioning with just three of them as against a sanctioned strength of 11, including the Chief Information Commissioner.
- Senior Indian Administrative Service official **Sudhi Ranjan Mohanty was In January, 2019 appointed Madhya Pradesh Chief Secretary.**
- **India and Pakistan in January, 2019 exchanged the lists of civilian prisoners and fishermen in their custody.**
- **India and Pakistan in January, 2019 exchanged the list of nuclear installations and facilities covered under the Agreement on the Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear installations between them.**
- **The Lok Sabha passed the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill yesterday.** It amends the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and replaces the **Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018.**
- The **United States and Israel officially quit the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** with the close of 2018.
- **Veteran actor-writer Kader Khan passed away in Canada yesterday.**
- **The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched a new platform called 'Samwad with Students' on January 1, 2019 in Bengaluru,** as part of its enhanced outreach programme.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for continuation of five schemes under the **'Umbrella Scheme for Family Welfare and Other Health Interventions'** during the **Fourteenth Finance Commission period 2017-18 to 2019-20,** an official statement said.

- Union Cabinet has approved the **restructuring of National Health Agency as the National Health Authority for better implementation of Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana.**
- **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) in January, 2019 gave Hemant Bhargava additional charge as chairman.** The announcement to appoint Bhargava, who is currently a managing director, comes after **the retirement of VK Sharma on December 31.**
- The **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** announced on January 1, 2019 that it **has appointed Pramod Kumar Singh as its secretary.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 106th Indian Science Congress at Lovely Professional University in Phagwara near Jalandhar on January 3, 2019.**
- Vice President **M. Venkaiah Naidu handed over 6 crore LPG connection under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) to Jasmina Khatoon from Shivpark, Khanpur, Delhi.**
- **Veer Savarkar International Airport in Port Blair was declared as an authorised Immigration Check post for entry into and exit from India** with valid travel documents for all classes of passengers.
- The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, along with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), will organise **the 4th International Conference on Pharmaceutical & Medical Device sector on February 18-19, 2019 in Bengaluru.**
- **Punjab Cabinet approved the modalities for the distribution of smartphones, with graduating students of government schools, colleges and technical institutions to be covered in the first phase of the scheme.**
- Punjab Cabinet led by Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh approved the **Online Transfer Policy-2019 of the School Education Department**, thus ensuring equal opportunity for all employees using online method for seeking transfers.
- **'Chang'e-4', a Chinese spacecraft, has made the first-ever landing on the far side of the moon.**
- Five nations, namely, **Belgium, Dominican Republic, Germany, Indonesia and South Africa assumed the charge as the Non-Permanent Members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).**
- **Virat Kohli bagged another major record to his name as he became the fastest to reach 19000 international runs**, surpassing his idol Sachin Tendulkar in the list to claim the summit position.
- **The East Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh achieved 100 percent electrification under the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (Saubhagya Scheme).**
- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on January 3, 2019 **notified the new food packaging regulations, replacing all provisions regarding the packaging requirements prescribed in the Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labelling) Regulations, 2011.**
- The Union Human Resource Development Ministry on December 31, 2018 **constituted a task force to look into the issues of suicides of the students in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas.**
- In the United States, veteran democratic leader **Nancy Pelosi**, considered an ardent supporter of India-US ties, **has been elected as Speaker of the House of Representatives for the second time**, thus becoming the most powerful elected woman in America.
- **Pakistan on January 3, 2019 abolished the long-standing facility of visa on arrival for nationals of Afghanistan.**
- **Arunima Sinha**, the Indian mountaineer who became the world's first woman amputee to climb Mount Everest in 2013, has now **become the first woman amputee to climb Mount Vinson, highest peak of Antarctica.**
- **The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship hosted the third edition of the National Entrepreneurship Awards in New Delhi on January 4, 2019.**
- **The first official World Braille Day is celebrated on 4 January 2019.**

- **Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister, on January 4, 2019 launched the 'Swachh Survekshan 2019', the fourth edition of the annual nationwide cleanliness survey of urban India in New Delhi.**
- **The 27th edition of the New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF), which has the UAE's third largest emirate Sharjah as its 2019 guest of honour, is set to enthrall book lovers from January 5 to 13 at Pragati Maidan.**
- **Odisha will participate as a partner state in the upcoming mega international food and beverage show 'Indus Food 2019', according to state MSME Minister Prafulla Samal.**
- **The National Green Tribunal on January 4, 2018 imposed a fine of whopping Rs 100 crore on the Meghalaya government for its failure to curb illegal coal mining in the state.**
- **The 80th National Table Tennis Championship began at Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Cuttack in January, 2019.**
- **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.**
- **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 In January, 2019.**
- **In Gujarat, the nine-day long international kite festival kicked off at Sabarmati River Front in Ahmedabad this morning.**
- **Odisha Agriculture Minister Pradeep Maharathy resigned**
- **India kicked-off their AFC Asian Cup campaign on a high as the Blue Tigers secured a thumping 4-1 win over Thailand.**
- **Malaysia's king has abdicated, royal officials said In January, 2019, in a historic first for the country that ended weeks of speculation about his future after he took medical leave.**
- **Union Cabinet has approved 10 per cent reservation in direct recruitments and for admission in higher educational institutions for the economically backward section in the general category.**
- **The North Central Railway, NCR has launched a mobile application to help people navigate through Prayagraj city during Kumbh Mela starting from January 15.**
- **The Union Women and Child Development Minister, Maneka Gandhi conferred National Awards to 97 Anganwadi Workers at a function in New Delhi on January 7, 2018 for exceptional achievements for the year 2017-18.**
- **The Lok Sabha on January 7, 2019 passed the Personal Laws (Amendment Bill), 2018, which seeks to remove leprosy as a ground for divorce.**
- **The Union Government will soon make it mandatory for linking Aadhaar with driving licences, as per Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad.**
- **2019 Golden Globe Awards: Bohemian Rhapsody wins Best Picture Drama**
- **Veterans Asha Parekh and Farooque Shaikh will be honoured by the Bimal Roy Memorial and Film Society on January 8, 2018 to commemorate the 52nd death anniversary of the renowned filmmaker.**
- **Veteran journalist Dinu Randive has been conferred with the lifetime achievement award by the Mantralaya and Vidhimandal Vartahar Sangh, an association of journalists covering Maharashtra legislature and secretariat.**
- **Egypt has opened West Asia's largest cathedral in its New Administrative Capital, 45 kilometres east of Cairo.**
- **India officially win a Test series in Australia for the first time after turning the final match into a non-result.**