

One Liner Current Affairs January 2019 – Week 4

Financial One Liner Current Affairs

- Private sector lender **Yes Bank** has partnered with **Government of Maharashtra** to onboard **PDS** shops which are popularly referred to as ration shops onto the electronic PDS initiative through which they can become agents of the bank.
- **The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India**, in association with the three Insolvency Professional Agencies -- the **Indian Institute of Insolvency Professionals of ICAI (lead partner)**, the **ICSI Institute of Insolvency Professionals**, and the **Insolvency Professional Agency of Institute of Cost Accountants of India** -- **organised an Insolvency and Bankruptcy Awareness Programme at Vadodara in Gujarat recently.**
- **India has signed 11Mo-Us worth \$ 9.5 million with the Afghan government this week.**
- **The 4th edition of 'India Steel 2019 - Exhibition & Conference'** is being organised by the Ministry of Steel, Government of India along with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) in **Mumbai on January 22- 24, 2019.**
- Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Shipping, Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, **Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 39 National Highways Projects in Andhra Pradesh.**
- Jharkhand Chief Minister, **Raghubar Das** who also holds the finance portfolio, on **January 22, 2019 tabled the annual budget for the state for the year 2019-20 worth Rs 85,429 crore.**
- The Union Cabinet in January, 2019 **approved setting up of a centralised Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling (AAAR) under the goods and services tax** that would decide on cases where there are divergent orders at the state level.
- **India will surpass China to become the second largest oil demand growth centre globally in 2019 on back of buoyant auto fuel and LPG consumption**, as per a report by research and consultancy group Wood Mackenzie that released on January 22, 2019.
- **Indian Oil Corporation, is planning to invest as much as Rs 16,641 crore in Tamil Nadu.** The PSU company signed a memorandum of understanding to this effect in January, 2019, **with the state government at the Global Investors Meet in Chennai.**
- **India's economy is expected to grow at 7.4 per cent during 2018-19 and improve to 7.6 per cent in the next fiscal, said a UN report In January, 2019.**
- **SBI Card and Etihad Guest**, the loyalty programme of Etihad Airways, **have joined hands to launch a travel specific Visa credit card for members and Indian travellers.**
- **Royal Enfield**, the global leader in the mid-sized motorcycle segment **signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Tamil Nadu.**
- Union minister **Nitin Gadkari** in January, 2019 **laid the foundation stones for two highway projects worth 1,600 crore rupees in Mumbai metropolitan region of Maharashtra.**
- **SBM Group**, a diversified financial services provider and the second largest listed banking institution on the Stock Exchange of Mauritius, announced the **launch of SBM Bank (India) Limited** which will operate as a full-fledged universal bank.
- The Supreme Court in January, 2019 issued contempt notices to the RBI for failing to reveal under the Right to Information Act intelligence received on loan defaulters and details of action taken against banks in connection with fraud.
- **Sarvatra Technologies**, India's leading end-to-end payments and banking solutions provider, has been awarded the 'Best Banking Tech' of the year for its world-class Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) switch platform that played a critical role in the effective nationwide participation in National Financial Switch (NFS) network.
- The Supreme Court on January 25, 2019 upheld the constitutional validity of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).

- A consortium of **India's eleven largest banks to launch the country's first blockchain-linked funding for small and medium enterprises (SME).**
- The 11 big lenders participating in the initiative include **ICICI, AXIS, HDFC, Kotak Mahindra, YES Bank, Standard Chartered, RBL, South Indian Bank, IndusInd Bank, State Bank of India and Bank of Baroda.**
- In a bid to prevent big economic offenders like Vijay Mallya and Nirav Modi from fleeing the country, **the government has empowered PSU banks to request lookout circulars (LOCs) against wilful defaulters and fraudsters,** officials said in January, 2019.
- **Foreign direct investment (FDI) during the previous fiscal grew 18 per cent to Rs 28.25 lakh crore,** data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed In January, 2019.
- **The Department of Economic Affairs and the French Development Agency in January, 2019 signed a credit facility framework agreement for extending bilateral funding to the tune of Euro 245 million towards the Pune Metro Project.**
- **Renault-Nissan Alliance India has signed an agreement with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to train its workforce in the Alliance plant in Chennai for future technologies.**
- **The BJP-led Assam government in January, 2019 launched a credit-linked subsidy scheme for farmers.**
- **Doha Bank has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Stock Holding Corporation of India Ltd (StockHolding), India's premier custodian and depository participant, to facilitate its global customer base to invest in India.**
- **India and China have signed the protocol for exports of Indian tobacco leaves to China.** Quality tobacco on par with international standards is available in India at competitive prices and there is a good potential for export of Indian tobacco to China.
- **India has replaced Japan as the world's second-largest steel producing country, only behind China, which is the largest producer of crude steel accounting for more than 51 per cent of production,** as per the latest report by World Steel Association.
- **IndusInd Bank has announced the launch of 'IndusInd Bank PAYBACK Credit Card', a co-branded credit card in partnership with PAYBACK - the country's largest multi-brand loyalty program.**
- **The High Level Committee, chaired by the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh, approved the additional Central assistance from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) of Rs 7214.03 crore to 6 States and one Union Territory.**
- **The Union Ministry of Steel on January 28, 2019 announced to set up the 'Safety Directorate'.**
- **The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on January 30, 2019 proposed a new set of relaxed norms for Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) to increase access to investors.**
- **China-based Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), in which India is the second largest shareholder, plans to launch local currency financing in India and some other Asian nations later this year to reduce cross-border investment risks caused by exchange-rate fluctuations.**
- **The 15th Finance Commission in January, 2019 announced the formation of a committee headed by finance commission member Ramesh Chand to find ways to settle the food account of Rs 31,000 crore, which the Congress government inherited from previous SAD-BJP regime.**
- **The Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi announced on January 28, 2019 that the GST on Haj has been reduced from 18 per cent to 5 per cent.**

Non-financial One Liner Current Affairs

- **The National Women's Party (NWP), which has been formed with the motto of women empowerment, was launched in Mumbai, Maharashtra on January 21, 2019. The party has been founded by Dr Swetha Shetty, a medical practitioner-cum- activist from Hyderabad, who would also serve as its President.**

- The Government on January 21, 2019 constituted a **Standing Committee headed by NITI Aayog to oversee the drug pricing regime. The Standing Committee on Affordable Medicines and Health Products will be headed by NITI Aayog Member (Health).**
- The Assam Government has **decided to give 10 percent quota in Government jobs and educational institutes to economically weaker sections in general category.**
- **Kinnar Akhara**, a group of transgender saints pursuing religious activities, emerged as a very significant feature at **Kumbh Mela 2019 at Prayagraj.**
- National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi, under the aegis of Ministry of Culture, **will organise an auction of prestigious memorable gifts presented to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi from all across India.**
- **Noted Gujarati poet Sitanshu Yashashchandra has been awarded Saraswati Samman, 2017**, for his poetry collection in Gujarati named "**Vakhar**".
- The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind on January 22, 2019 **conferred the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2019.**
- **Indian Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu presented the second Chhatra Vishwakarma Awards to students and their mentors and Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) awards to institutions at an event organised by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) on January 21, 2019 at New Delhi.**
- **Indian skipper Virat Kohli on January 22, 2019 became the first cricketer to win all the top three ICC individual awards including the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for ICC Cricketer of the Year, the ICC Men's Test Player of the Year and the ICC ODI Player of the Year for his performances in 2018.**
- **Indian wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant claimed the ICC's Emerging Cricketer of the Year award.**
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) **announced a bonus of Rs 20 lakh each for the senior selection committee members following India's maiden Test series win in Australia.**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 22, 2019 **launched the Pravasi Teerth Darshan Yojana under which a group of Indian diaspora will be taken on a government-sponsored tour of religious places in India twice a year.**
- The **Indian Navy** on January 22, 2019 **commenced its largest-ever coastal defence exercise - 'Sea Vigil'-off the Indian coast, ten years after the "26/11" attack.**
- The **Maharashtra cabinet** on January 22, 2019 **approved the implementation of the Centre's Nirbhaya scheme, which seeks to curb crimes against women, for Mumbai.**
- The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated the 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas on January 22, 2019 in his parliamentary constituency, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. In the history of Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas, the event is being held for the first time in Varanasi, the cultural and spiritual capital of India.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 23, 2019 inaugurated the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose museum at the iconic Red Fort in Delhi to mark the leader's 122nd birth anniversary.
- **Cabinet has approved the landmark amendment to Article 280 of the Constitution to increase powers of Autonomous Councils in Sixth Schedule areas of North East.**
- **Union Minister of State for Ayush Shripad Naik inaugurated the 2nd World Integrated Medicine Forum 2019 in Panaji, Goa this evening.**
- **The government has instituted an annual award titled Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar. This year, 8th Battalion of National Disaster Response Force located at Ghaziabad has been selected for the Award for its commendable work in disaster management.**
- **Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal has been assigned to temporarily hold the portfolios of Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs during the period of the indisposition of Arun Jaitley.**
- **Indu Shekhar Jha on January 21, 2019 took oath as the Member of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).**
- **Priyanka Gandhi Vadra was on January 23, 2019 appointed AICC general secretary for Uttar Pradesh East**
- The Israeli and US defence ministries announced on January 22, 2019 that they have successfully tested ballistic missile interceptors deployed at Israeli airbases.
- **National Girl Child Day is observed across India on 24 January. The theme this year is 'Empowering Girls for a Brighter Tomorrow'.**

- Former India hockey player **Raghubir Singh Bhola**, a two-time Olympic medallist, passed away on January 21, 2019 at the age of 92.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) **has successfully test-fired the Long Range Surface to Air Missile (LR-SAM) from naval warship INS Chennai off the coast of Odisha.**
- **The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch a students' satellite Kalamsat and an imaging satellite Microsat-R from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh on January 24, 2019, marking its first launch of the ISRO in 2019.**
- **India and Maldives have agreed to continue their traditionally close cooperation on issues of maritime security, counter-terrorism and medical cooperation.**
- **Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba commissioned the new Naval Air Base 'INS Kohassa' at Diglipur in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.**
- **Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports, Rajyavardhan Rathore inaugurated the National Declamation Contest on Patriotism and Nation Building during the National Declamation Contest, organised by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) with the support of Department of Youth Affairs.**
- **Union Minister for Science & Technology Dr. Harsh Vardhan will launch three important centres, set up by Department of Science and Technology (DST), at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IITM) on January 25, 2019.**
- **The pace of reduction of poverty in India has speeded up in recent years as per the Global Multi-dimensional Poverty Index 2018 and as per the note published by the Brookings Institution.**
- **The Election Commission of India (ECI) will be hosting an International Conference on 'Making Elections Inclusive and Accessible' on January 24, 2019, in consonance with the 9th National Voters' Day which will be held on January 25, 2019.**
- **In a first for Kashmir, Lance Naik Nazir Ahmad Wani belonging to the state, will be awarded the highest peace-time gallantry award "Ashok Chakra" posthumously on Republic Day.**
- **The Central Bank of India has been given away the Atal Pension Yojana Award for promoting the scheme across the country.**
- **Three Indian expats from the UAE are amongst those who won the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award 2019, the highest honour conferred on Indian diaspora.**
- **YES Bank appointed Deutsche Bank's Ravneet Singh Gill as its MD and CEO, who will succeed Rana Kapoor.**
- **Jammu and Kashmir Government in January, 2019 issued formal orders regarding the appointment of Skandan Krishnan, IAS (Retired) as the fourth Advisor to the Governor Satya Pal Malik.**
- **Private sector Lakshmi Vilas Bank has reappointed Parthasarathi Mukherjee as its managing director when the lender is struggling to raise Rs 2000 crore from investors.**
- **Aviation veteran Ronojoy Dutta has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IndiGo**
- **United Nations observed the first International Day of Education on 24 January, 2019.**
- **The theme of the day was: "Education: A Key Driver for Inclusion and Empowerment."**
- **Uttar Pradesh celebrated its 69th foundation day on January 24, 2019.**
- **Social activist Nanaji Deshmukh, Music maestro Bhupen Hazarika and former President Pranab Mukherjee have been awarded with country's highest civilian honour Bharat Ratna.**
- **President of Djibouti Ismail Omar Guelleh, L&T chairman A M Naik, late journalist Kuldip Nayar, late actor Kadar Khan and cricketer Gautam Gambhir were among the 112 prominent personalities who were named in January, 2019 for conferment of this year's Padma awards.**
- **Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Petroleum and Natural Gas (MSDE) on January 24, 2019 launched new reforms and guidelines for Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) to further strengthen the skills ecosystem benefiting those in the underprivileged sections of society.**
- **After months of ground and flight trials, the Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification (CEMILAC), a premier military certification agency, on January 22, 2019 cleared the use of indigenously produced bio-fuel for use in the military aircraft.**
- **The Union Government has decided to renovate and develop around 400 abandoned airstrips across the country to strengthen air-connectivity.**

- Fourth edition of Bharat Parv, showcasing the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat will begin at Red Fort in Delhi in January, 2019.
- Information and Broadcasting Ministry has decided to revise the advertisement rates offered by the Bureau of Outreach and Communication (BOC) to private TV channels.
- National Voters Day observed on 25 January, 2019 with the theme for this year "No Voter To Be Left Behind".
- Veteran South African all-rounder Johan Botha has announced his immediate retirement from all forms of cricket.
- Scientists in China have cloned five monkeys for human disease research. The research team edited genes of monkeys to induce several human diseases like Alzheimer's claiming that it would help in medical research.
- United Nations chief Antonio Guterres on January 24, 2019 warned that the world is "losing the race" on climate change and demanded that governments make bolder commitments beyond the Paris accord.
- Eminent Hindi author and poet Krishna Sobti passed away on January 25, 2019 at a hospital in Delhi. She was 93.
- India's fastest indigenous train which will run from Delhi to Varanasi has been named as Vande Bharat Express.
- On the occasion of Republic Day, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath in January, 2019 announced the launch of the 'Yuva Swabhiman Yojana' for youths from the economically weaker sections in urban areas.
- The Kerala government will soon launch a 'Pravasi Dividend Pension Scheme' to provide regular pension to Non Resident Keralites on a one-time payment of Rs 5 lakh, Governor P. Sathasivam said in January, 2019.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for All India Institutes of Medical Sciences, AIIMS at Madurai in Tamil Nadu in January, 2019.
- The all-women Assam Rifles contingent created history this year by participating for the first time in a Republic Day parade.
- Union Science and Technology Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated three specialized centers at Madras IIT in January, 2019.
- The Southern Railway has bagged the number one position for cleanliness in the country.
- Poonam Khetrapal Singh has been appointed the South-East Asia regional director of the World Health Organization (WHO) for a second five-year term.
- *Novak Djokovic defeats Rafael Nadal to earn his seventh Australian title*
- Japan's Naomi Osaka wins Australian Open 2019 Women's Singles title after defeating Petra Kvitova.
- Ace shuttler Saina Nehwal claimed her first BWF title in two years after three-time world champion Carolina Marin of Spain limped out of the Indonesia Masters final.
- India celebrated its 70th Republic Day with a grand display of its military might and rich cultural diversity as the ceremonial parade rolled down the majestic Rajpath in the presence of South African President Cyril Ramaphosa as the chief guest.
- International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust is observed on 27 January, 2019. The theme of the Holocaust remembrance and education activities this year is "Holocaust Remembrance: Demand and Defend Your Human Rights".
- Human Resources Development Ministry in January, 2019 signed an agreement with Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) for India's Participation in Programme for International Student Assessment- PISA 2021.
- Maharashtra state labour department has launched a housing scheme for construction workers in rural areas. Officials said the Atal Construction Workers Awas Yojana (Rural) is aimed at providing financial assistance of Rs 1.5 lakh each to construction workers to build pucca houses or to convert existing homes into pucca houses.

The Swasth Bharat Yatra, the world's biggest cyclothon to push people to eat right, culminated in New Delhi in January, 2019. The campaign was flagged-off on 16th October last year on the occasion of World Food Day.

- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated **four-lane 5.1-kilometer long "Atal Setu", the third Cable Bridge across river Mandovi in Panaji, Goa.**
- Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, **Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone for development of a six-lane corridor from Akshardham in East Delhi to the Eastern Peripheral Expressway junction on Baghpat Road.**
- **The Ministry of Defence launched a mobile app 'RDP India 2019' on the Republic Day** with the intent of making available the highlights of the Republic Day event to the general public all over the world.
- **The Supreme Court on January 28, 2019 constituted a Constitution Bench for hearing a plea challenging the mandatory requirement to recite Sanskrit and Hindi prayers** in morning assembly sessions of 1,125 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) across the country.
- **The Chief Election Commissioner of India, Shri Sunil Arora and Election Commissioner Shri Ashok Lavasa in January, 2019 inaugurated an International Conference on 'Making our Elections Inclusive and Accessible'.**
- Part-time bowler **Ambati Rayudu was banned from bowling in international cricket by the International Cricket Council (ICC)** after he failed to submit a test of his bowling action.
- **Malaysia was stripped of the right to host the 2019 World Para Swimming Championships** for threatening to refuse to allow Israeli athletes to take part in the event.
- **Nagaland in January, 2019 got its first Astro Turf Football Pitch at Indira Gandhi Stadium in Kohima** on the occasion of 100th Birth Anniversary of the legendary footballer, Dr. T. Ao .
- **The ICAR tableau in the Republic Day Parade has won the first prize for its Kisan Gandhi theme. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research tableau with the theme "Mishrit Kheti, Khushiyon Ki Kheti" portrayed Gandhi** with goats and a cow and Kasturba engaged with charkha and caring animals. The tableau showcased a view from Bapu Kutti at Wardha Ashram.
- International Customs Day 2019 was observed globally on 26 January. The theme of International Customs Day 2019 was **"SMART borders for seamless Trade, Travel and Transport."**
- Data Privacy & Protection Day is observed on 28 January, 2019. The theme of this year's Data Privacy & Protection Day is **A New Era In Privacy.**
- **Former Defence Minister and Anti-Emergency Crusader George Fernandes passed away in New Delhi.**
- **K.J. Alphons, Union Minister for Tourism will on January 30, 2019 inaugurate the first project under the Swadesh Darshan Project of the Union Ministry of Tourism at the Zero Point, Gangtok, Sikkim.** This project was sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism in June 2015 for Rs. 98.05 crores.
- **The four-day long celebrations of the 70th Republic Day concluded on January 29, 2019 with 'Beating the Retreat' ceremony, which was held at the historic Vijay Chowk in New Delhi.**
- **Prakash Javadekar, Union Minister for Human Resource Development will inaugurate the new Campus of the National Museum Institute at A-19, Sector 62, NOIDA (Institutional Area).**
- **Nari Shakti was chosen as the Hindi word of the year 2018 by Oxford Dictionary.**
- **The Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on January 29, 2019 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) for improving official statistical system of India.**
- **India received the Award of Excellence for 'Best in Show' at the recently concluded New York Times Travel Show 2019.**

- India's national academy of letters, Sahitya Akademi on January 29, 2019 presented the Sahitya Akademi Award 2018 to 24 writers. The awards were given for 24 different Indian languages.
- Suman Kumari has become the first Hindu woman in Pakistan to be appointed as a civil judge, according to a media report.
- Martyr's Day observed on 30th January, 2019.
- World Leprosy Day was observed on January 27, 2019 with the theme ending discrimination, stigma and prejudice.
- Uttar Pradesh State Cabinet on January 29, 2019 approved the construction of a four-lane Ganga Expressway connecting Prayagraj to Western Uttar Pradesh.
- The state government of Maharashtra on January 29, 2019 launched a special scheme to curb infant deaths. The government started distributing baby-care kits to the children born in primary health centres and government hospitals, as part of its efforts to reduce the infant mortality rate.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated National Salt Satyagraha Memorial to the nation at Dandi village, situated in South Gujarat on Arabian sea coast.
- The Western Railway has provided Segways, the two-wheeled, self-balancing and battery-powered electric vehicles, to the Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel deployed at major railway stations in Mumbai.
- Actress Deepika Padukone has replaced producer Kiran Rao as the chairperson of the Mumbai Academy of Moving Image (MAMI), which organises the Jio MAMI Mumbai Film Festival with Star.
- India improved its ranking on the 2018 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) by three points and moved to 78th position with a score of 41. India ranked at 81st place on the Corruption Perceptions Index 2017.
- The central banks of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia have launched a common digital currency called 'Aber', which will be used in financial settlements between the two countries through Blockchains and Distributed Ledgers technologies.