



#### **Current Affairs Tonic for IBPS RRB PO and Clerk Mains**

### The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2019

- The Nobel Assembly has announced the 2019 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine at Karolinska Institutet. The prize will be awarded jointly to William G. Kaelin, Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe and Gregg L. Semenza. They have been nominated for the prize for their discoveries of how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability.
- The prize committees are currently working carefully and independently to select the recipients of the 2019 Nobel Prize and the laureates for other fields: Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace Prize and the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.

#### **The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2019**

- The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2019. The prize will be awarded jointly to John B. Goodenough, M. Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino. They have been nominated for the prize for the development of lithium-ion batteries.
- This lightweight, rechargeable and powerful battery is now used in everything from mobile phones to laptops and electric vehicles. The prize committees are currently working carefully and independently to select the recipients of the 2019 Nobel Prize and the laureates for other fields: Literature, Peace Prize and the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.

#### RBI released Consumer Confidence Survey (September 2019)

- The Reserve Bank of India has released the results of the September 2019 round of its Consumer Confidence Survey. The survey was conducted in 13 major cities: Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Chennai, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Patna and Thiruvananthapuram.
- Perceptions and expectations on the general economic situation, the employment scenario, the overall price situation and own income and spending are obtained from households across these cities.

#### Highlights of the survey:

- Consumer confidence weakened in September with both the current situation index and the future expectations index recording declines.
- Households' sentiments on the general economic situation and the employment scenario declined. They were less optimistic on their income over the year ahead than in July 2019.

- Respondents perceived an increase in the price level over the last 1 year and a majority of them expect prices to rise further in the coming year.
- Respondents sentiments on overall spending as well as essential spending remain strong, though sentiments on discretionary spending weakened.

#### India receives 1st Rafale fighter jet built for Indian Air Force

- India has got the 1st Rafale fighter jet "RB-001" built for the Indian Air Force (IAF) in France. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh received the 1st Rafale combat jet aircraft at Production Unit of Dassault Aviation in France. However, the first batch of jets will arrive in India only in May 2020. Defence Minister also held the Annual Defence dialogue with his French counterpart Florence Parly.
- The RB in the aircraft designation stands for IAF Chief Air Chief Marshal **R.K.S. Bhadauria** who as then Deputy Chief of IAF led the Indian negotiation team and had a major role in the contract negotiations.

#### India ranks 68th on WEF's Global Competitiveness Index

- World Economic Forum has released the Global Competitiveness Index report. In total, there are 103 indicators distributed across the 12 pillars on which the performance of the countries was evaluated. As per the WEF's released report, India has moved down 10 places to rank 68th on an annual global competitiveness index which was topped by Singapore.
- India is among the worst-performing BRICS nations along with Brazil which is ranked 71st this year. WEF stated that India ranks high in terms of macroeconomic stability and market size, while its financial sector is relatively deep and stable despite the high delinquency rate, which contributes to weakening the soundness of its banking system.

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## MAINS 2019

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Here is the detailed ranking of India in individual pillars across which the performance of the countries was evaluated:

Sl. No.	Pillars	Rank
1.	Institutions	59
2.	Infrastructure	70
3.	ICT Adoption	120
4.	Macroeconomic Stability	43
5.	Health	110
6.	Skills	107
7.	Product Market	101
8.	Labour Market	103
9.	Financial System	40
10.	Market Size	3
11.	Business Dynamism	69
12.	Innovation Capability	35

#### President Kovind appoints Chief Justices to 7 high courts

President **Ramnath Kovind** appoints Chief Justices to seven high courts. Those chief justices have been appointed to Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana, Gauhati, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim High Courts.

Name	High court
Lingappa Narayana Swamy	Himachal Pradesh High Court
Ravi ShankerJha	Punjab and Haryana High Court
Indrajit Mohanty	Rajasthan High Court
J.K. Maheshwari	Andhra Pradesh High Court
S. Manikumar	Kerala High Court
Arup K. Goswami	Sikkim High Court
Ajai Lamba	Gauhati High Court



Four of the new Chief Justices would fill the vacancies left by Justices V. Ramasubramanian, Krishna Murari, S. Ravindra Bhat and Hrishikesh Roy, who were elevated to the Supreme Court recently from the Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana, Rajasthan, and Kerala High Courts, respectively

RBI reduces repo rate by 25 basis points in 4th Bi-monthly Monetary Policy

- ➢ In its 4th Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Committee meeting, the Reserve Bank of India has reduced the policy repo rate by 25 basis points (bps).
- The MPC has also decided to maintain the accommodative stance of monetary policy. The main decisions taken in the 4th Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Committee meeting are:
- The repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) was reduced from 5.40% to 5.15%.
- The reverse repo rate under the LAF stands revised to 4.90%.
- The marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate is revised to 5.40%.
- RBI has also reduced the real GDP growth for 2019-20 from 6.9% to 6.1%.

#### **National Affairs**

> Jal Shakti Minister has launched an initiative 'Ganga Amantran'. The initiative has been launched to connect with the stakeholders of the river. It is a pioneering exploratory open-water rafting and kayaking expedition on the Ganga river. The expedition will start at Devaprayag and culminate at Ganga Sagar covering the entire stretch of over 25,000 kms of the River.

Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** flagged off **Delhi-Katra Vande Bharat Express** from the New Delhi Railway Station. The first commercial run of the train will start from 5th October.

- Palestine has released a commemorative postage stamp on Mahatma Gandhi, honouring his legacy and values, to mark the 150 birth anniversary of the world leader.
- Union Minister Smriti Irani Inaugurates India's Largest 'Charkha' made of Waste Plastic in Noida. This 'charkha' (spinning wheel) made of used plastic waste was inaugurated the eve of Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary.
- The Nation pays homage to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th birth anniversary on 2nd October 2019.
- The nation is also remembering Former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his 115th birth anniversary. He gave the nation the powerful slogan of Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan to enthuse soldiers and farmers.
- China unveiled the Dongfeng-41 (DF-41) intercontinental-range ballistic missile, touted to be the most powerful missile on the planet at the National Day parade, as China observed its 70th anniversary of Communist rule.

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- The nationwide Paryatan Parv, 2019 kicked off to promote tourism in the country. The aim is to propagate the message of Dekho Apna Desh to encourage people to visit tourist destinations of the country and also spread the message of Tourism for All.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mauritius PM Pravind Jugnauth jointly inaugurated 2 landmark projects in Mauritius via video conference.
- Tourism Ministry has launched the Audio Guide facility "Audio Odigos" for 12 sites of India (including Iconic Sites) on the occasion of "Paryatan Parv 2019".
- Passengers of IRCTC's Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express will be compensated in case of delays, the Railway subsidiary, announcing a first of its kind offer from any national carrier.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath flagged off country's first private train Delhi-Lucknow Tejas Express started its maiden journey from Lucknow. It will be the first train of Indian Railways that will be entirely run by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).
- The Goa Maritime Conclave (GMC)-2019 was inaugurated by the National Security Advisor, Shri Ajit Kumar Doval, at Goa.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes has launched "Faceless e-Assessment scheme" that eliminates physical interface between an assessing officer and an assessee. They also inaugurated the National e-Assessment Centre (NeAC).
- The 1st Government-sponsored and operated Day-Care cum Recreation Centre for senior citizens has been inaugurated in Leh.

#### **States in the News**

- Rajasthan became the third state in India after Maharashtra and Bihar to ban certain categories of pan masala containing magnesium carbonate, nicotine, tobacco, mineral oil and flavoured 'supari'.
- Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik rolled out 'Mo Sarkar' programme which finds its roots in the Gandhian philosophy of giving people their voice in daily governance.
- Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Trivendra Singh Rawat launched an awareness campaign "Urjagiri" which aims at stopping power theft and saving.
- Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy will launch the "YSR Vahana Mitra scheme" in Eluru, Andhra Pradesh.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur launched the Pragati Rath of the HDFC bank.

#### **Agreements/MoUs Signed**

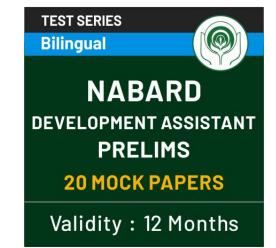
- Bank of Baroda (BoB) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Army under which the bank would offer customised services along with a host of facilities to account holders.
- The Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have joined hands to set up the country's first e-waste clinic in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India jointly launched Youth Co:Lab.
- National Health Authority signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) with Google to collaborate and strengthen the implementation of Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY).
- The All India Institute of Medical Sciences in collaboration with the Union Health Ministry launched the 1st-ever website and mobile application on oral health awareness "eDantSeva".

#### International

Antonio Costa has been re-elected as the Prime Minister of Portugal after winning the general elections.

#### **Books and Authors**

- A book penned by Indian Ambassador to the Netherlands Venu Rajamony titled 'India and the Netherlands – Past, Present and Future,' was released in Amsterdam.
- A new book entitled "The Tech Whisperer", written by digital transformation expert Jaspreet Bindra, features a chapter on AI (Artificial Intelligence).
- A new book titled "150 Years of Celebrating the Mahatma the South African Legacy", by Fakir Hassen launched in Johannesburg, South Africa. This book released on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary.



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#### Banking/Economy/Business News

- The State Bank of India opened its Melbourne office and becoming the first Indian bank to have a branch in the Australian state of Victoria.
- Axis Bank, India's third-largest private sector bank has launched the 'Express FD', a digital fixed deposit (FD) product that allows a customer to open an FD account in 3 minutes through the digital mode without opening a savings account with the bank.
- UCO Bank has launched three new digital products called, UCash, Digilocker and an app in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Reliance Mutual Fund has been renamed as "Nippon India Mutual Fund". The organization was renamed following the purchase of 75% stake in Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management by Nippon Life Insurance.
- Infosys has been selected as the main supplier to deliver Volvo Cars' digital transformation services for its enterprise digital commercial operations applications and products. Infosys will offer next generation application services leveraging its global delivery model (GDM), agile delivery, automation and other service optimisation levers to deliver effective service operations.
- The Reserve Bank of India has rejected the merger proposal of Indiabulls Housing Finance and Lakshmi Vilas Bank. RBI has rejected the application for voluntary amalgamation of Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. and Indiabulls Commercial Credit Ltd. with the Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd.

#### **Appointments/Resignations**

- The Reserve Bank of India has superseded the Board of Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank Limited, Mumbai and appointed Jai Bhagwan Bhoria as the bank's administrator with all powers of the board.
- Senior Indian Information Service officer, KS Dhatwalia, has been appointed as the Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau.
- SS Mallikarjuna Rao was appointed as the Managing Director(MD)and Chief Executive of the Punjab National Bank(PNB).
- The former Indian captain Kapil Dev decision to resign from the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) of BCCI.
- Air Marshal S K Ghotia has taken over as the new Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the South Western Air Command (SWAC) of the Indian Air Force (IAF), at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- The government has appointed economist Surjit Bhalla as the executive director of the International Monetary Fund for a period of three years.
- Digital infrastructure provider, Tata Communications has named Amur S Lakshminarayanan as Managing Director and Group Chief Executive Officer designate of the company.

- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of India was appointed Amrit Lugun as the next Ambassador of India to Greece.
- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of India notified that Muktesh Kumar Pardeshi was appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Niue.
- Oil India Limited has appointed Sushil Chandra Mishra as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company.
- Vijay Patil has been elected the president of Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA), while Sanjay Naik and Amol Kale were elected as secretary and vice-president Respectively.
- The Punjab government has appointed Justice Vinod Kumar Sharma (retired) as the new Lokpal. The post was lying vacant since April 23, 2018, after Justice Satish Kumar Mittal (retd) had resigned.
- The Director-General of UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay, has named Mexican actress Yalitza Aparicio as a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Indigenous Peoples.

#### **Defence and Security**

- India successfully test-fired a land-attack version of BrahMos supersonic missile from Chandipur coast in Odisha's Balasore district. DRDO conducted the test-fire successfully.
- > 14th edition of Indo Mongolian joint military training, Exercise Nomadic Elephant-XIV started. The Mongolian Army is being represented by officers and troops of the elite 084 Air Borne Special Task Battalion, while the Indian Army is being represented by a contingent of a battalion of RAJPUTANA RIFLES.

#### **Awards and Recognitions**

- President Ram Nath Kovind will confer the Vayoshreshtha Samman-2019 on the eminent senior citizens and institutions in recognition of their services towards the cause of the elderly persons.
- President Ram Nath Kovind presented the most effective Swachchta Ambassador award to Former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar on the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.







- England all-rounder Ben Stokes has been voted Professional Cricketers' Association player of the year at the Professional Cricketers' Association awards.
- Human rights lawyer from Kyrgyzstan Azizbek Ashurov was awarded the 2019 UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) prestigious Nansen Award.
- Short film from Kerala "Spirit Of Kerala" has won the People's Choice Award at the recently concluded My Rode Reel film competition. The film won the honour beating 1,680 entries. The short film is based on a boat race and directed by Arun Joseph.

#### **Ranks and Reports**

Kerala has topped the "School Education Quality Index" launched by NITI Aayog. Uttar Pradesh was ranked at the bottom of the list. Chandigarh has topped the list of Union Territories.

#### **Summit and Conference**

The three-day event 5th World Parliament of Science, Religion and Philosophy will be held at the MIT World Peace University in Pune, Maharashtra.

#### **Sports News**

- India's N. Wilson Singh and Satish Kumar Prahapati won the gold medal in the 10m platform synchronised diving event at the Asian Age Group Championships held in Bengaluru.
- Jamaican sprint legend Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce won gold medal in 100m race of 2019 IAAF World Championships held in Doha.
- Indian fencer Bhavani Devi wins the silver medal in the women's sabre individual event at the Tournoi satellite competition in Belgium.
- Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes won the 2019 Russia F1 Grand Prix (Formula 1 GP) at Sochi Autodrom race track in Russia.
- Maj Abdul Quadir Khan of the Corps of Signals has won the Silver medal at the 53rd Asian Body Building and Physique Sports Championship held at Batam, Indonesia.
- Harmanpreet Kaur has become the 1st Indian to play 100 T20 International matches. She has joined the club of 10 female players who have reached the three figure mark in terms of appearances.
- Novak Djokovic defeated Australia's John Millman in the finals to win the Japan Open title.
- Austria's Christine Wolf has won the Hero Women's Indian Open at Gurugram, Haryana.
- Japan's Naomi Osaka has won the China Open held in Beijing, China. She defeated world number one Ashleigh Barty with a score of 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.
- Simone Biles has clinched a record-extending 15th World Gymnastics Championship title in Stuttgart, Germany.

#### **Important Days**

- The United Nations observes 1 October every year as International Day of Older Persons. 2019 Theme: The Journey to Age Equality.
- The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2 October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.
- World Teachers' Day or International Teachers' Days is celebrated on October 5.
- Air Force Day is celebrated every year by the Indian Air Force on 8th of October. This year Indian Air Force celebrated its 87th anniversary. The IAF was founded on October 8, 1932.
- United Nations celebrates World Post Day every year on 9 October.
- The United Nations designated the first Monday (07<sup>th</sup> October) of October of every year as World Habitat Day.
- The United Nations (Office for Outer Space Affairs) observes 4-10 October every year as World Space Week. The theme for 2019 is: The Moon: Gateway to the Stars.

#### **Obituaries**

- Indian National Army (INA) veteran V Ganesan passed away. He joined Netaji's INA at the age of 18 and received six months of military training in Singapore.
- Legendary Mexican singer Jose Jose who was often called 'El Principe de la Cancion' or 'The Prince of Song, passes away.
- Jessye Norman, the renowned international opera star whose passionate soprano voice won her 4 Grammy awards and the national medal of arts, passed away recently.
- American-Austrian film producer Eric Pleskow the Hollywood tycoon passed away.
- Renowned kidney transplant surgeon and Padma Shri recipient Dr H L Trivedi passed away.
- Farook Khan, an Indian-origin journalist in South Africa passed away.







- Centenarian philatelist and coin collector Krishna Gopalkrishna Kadekodi passed away. He was 102.
- The second highest Buddhist leader of Bangladesh and head of Sima Bihar of Ramu, Satyapriya Mohathero passed away in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- US actress Diahann Carroll, who won Golden Globe and Tony awards and was nominated for an Oscar passed away.

#### **Miscellaneous News**

- UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and Doordarshan, country's public service broadcaster have joined hands to telecast TV bilingual programme 'Mahatma Lives' or 'Bapu Zinda Hain' on 1-2 October 2019.
- Film Division in association with India Tourism will organise a "Gandhi Film Festival" in Mumbai from 2nd to 6th October, 2019.
- Power Minister RK Singh and Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi have jointly launched PRAKASH – Power Rail Koyla Availability through Supply Harmony- portal in New Delhi.
- National Buildings Construction Corporation(NBCC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to provide project management consultancy for the development of National Sports University at Imphal, Manipur.
- The National Basketball Association (NBA) brought to India the first-ever Floating Basketball Court in the Arabian Sea in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Union Health Minister, Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched eco-friendly green firecrackers which have been manufactured in India. Environment-friendly fireworks have been developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) labs and manufactured by licensee-manufacturers.
- Health Minister Harsh Vardhan launched the 'transfat-free' logo, which can be voluntarily used by food business operators in their outlets and also on food products.

# Special Offer IBPS RRB CLERK MAINS 2019 35 MOCK PAPERS Validity : 1 Month

#### **Static Takeaways**

- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- SBI Chairperson: Rajnish Kumar; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 July 1955.
- DRDO Chairman: G Satheesh Reddy, Established: 1958; Headquarters: New Delhi.
- > Capital of Belgium: Brussels; Currency of Belgium: Euro.
- Headquarters of United Nations: New York, USA; Founded: 24 October 1945.
- Secretary General of the United Nations: Antonio Guterres.
- Director-General of UNESCO: Audrey Azoulay; UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France.
- President of China: Xi Jinpings.
- > Capital of China: Beijing; Currency: Renminbi.
- Chief Minister of Rajasthan: Ashok Gehlot; Governor: Kalraj Mishra.
- Headquarters of PNB: New Delhi; Founded: 19 May 1894.
- > Founder: Dyal Singh Majithia and Lala Lajpat Rai.
- President of BCCI: C.K. Khanna; Headquarters of BCCI: Mumbai.
- The Indian Air Force is the air arm of the Indian Armed Forces.
- > Indian Air Force was founded on 08th October 1932.
- ➢ Headquarters of IAF is in New Delhi.
- Managing Director & CEO of BOB: P S Jayakumar; Headquarters: Baroda, Gujarat.
- Chairman of Axis Bank: Rakesh Makhija; Headquarters: Mumbai.
- Netherlands Capital: Amsterdam, Currency: Euro and USD.
- Minister of State (I/C) of Tourism Ministery: Prahalad Singh Patel.
- Railway Minister: Piyush Goyal.
- > Odisha CM: Naveen Patnaik; Governor: Ganeshi Lal.
- Capital of Uttarakhand: Dehradun; Governor: Baby Rani Maurya.
- Capital of Greece: Athens; Currency of Greece: Euro.
- Capital of Niue: Alofi; Currency: Niue dollar, New Zealand dollar.
- Governor of RBI: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- UNHCR Founded: 14 December 1950; Headquarters of UNHCR: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Chief Minister of Manipur: N. Biren Singh; Governor of Manipur: Padmanabha Balkrishna Acharya.
- MD & CEO of UCO Bank: Atul Kumar Goel; Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Governor of Himanchal Pradesh: Bandaru Dattatraya.
- Chairman of CBDT: PC Mody

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- Headquarters of United Nations: New York, USA; Founded: 24 October 1945, Secretary General: Antonio Guterres
- > Air Force Chief: Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria
- Mongolia Capital: Ulaanbaatar; Currency: Mongolian togrog
- CM of Punjab: Amarinder Singh; Governor: VP Singh Badnore
- Capitals of South Africa: Cape Town, Pretoria, Bloemfontein
- > The rand is the official currency of South Africa
- Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh: Kamal Nath; Governor of Madhya Pradesh: Lal Ji Tandon.
- > Union Jal Shakti Minister: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.
- Governor of RBI: Shaktikant Das; Headquarters: Mumbai; Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.



adda 241