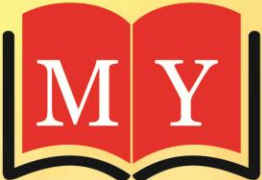
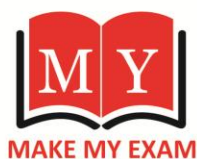


# Weekly Current Affairs

05 May – 11 May, 2019

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|--|---|---|--|
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| <br>Are you ready for SBI PO EXAM ?<br><b>SBI PO- PRE EXAM TRAINING</b><br>DAY-1<br>Online 8 days<br>SBI PO : 8 Days online PRE EXAM TRAINING | <br><b>SBI PO- PRE EXAM TRAINING</b><br>DAY-2 (2 HOURS)<br>REASONING ABILITY<br>Online 8 days<br>SBI PO online PET : Day 2 Reasoning Ability | <br><b>SBI PO- PRE EXAM TRAINING</b><br>DAY-3 (2 HOURS)<br>QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE<br>Online 8 days<br>SBI PO Online PET: Day 3 Maths - Percentage, Profit & Loss & All... | <br><b>SBI PO- PRE EXAM TRAINING</b><br>DAY - 4<br>GENERAL ENGLISH<br>Online 8 days<br>SBI PO online PET : Day 4 GENERAL ENGLISH - CLOZE TEST, S. REAR... |

Video lectures for all subjects

Current Affairs bulletin

Exam Notification & Analysis

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## **National News**

### **1. Nepali Girl Bandana Dances For 126 Hours Straight To Set New World Record**

- ✦ A Nepali teenager danced continuously for 126 hours to set a Guinness World Records on "Longest Dancing Marathon by an Individual", a feat previously hold by an Indian.
- ✦ Bandana Nepal beat the record set by Kalamandalam Hemlatha, who danced continuously for 123 hours and 15 minutes in 2011.
- ✦ Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli honoured the 18-year-old girl, Bandana Nepal, for achieving the feat.

### **2. Vodafone Idea signs multi-million dollar IT deal with IBM**

- ✦ India's largest telecom operator Vodafone Idea Ltd announced a five-year multi-million-dollar IT outsourcing deal with tech giant IBM.
- ✦ The collaboration will provide Vodafone Idea with a hybrid cloud based digital platform to enable more intimate engagement with its over 387 million subscribers (as of 31 December, 2018), enhancing business efficiency.
- ✦ The deal will also provide a platform for fast-track joint initiatives in Artificial Intelligence and Internet of Things.

### **3. Gates Foundation Hires Senior Tata Official as India Policy Head**

- ✦ The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has hired a senior executive from Tata Group, India's largest business group, for its operations in the country.
- ✦ Ubale, who has spent more than a decade at Tata Group, was previously chief executive officer of its closely-held property arm Tata Realty & Infrastructure Ltd.
- ✦ The Gates Foundation, the world's biggest private charity, has an endowment of \$50.7 billion.

### **4. E-Governance Services India ties up with IIT-Kanpur to upscale Unnat Bharat Abhiyan**

- ✦ E-Governance Services India Limited, has tied up with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kanpur to upscale 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan'.
- ✦ 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan' is an initiative of the Ministry of HRD, aims to find solutions to accelerate sustainable growth in rural India.
- ✦ Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, IIT-Kanpur has brought together 15 leading higher education institutions from Uttar Pradesh.

### **5. Gujarat Assembly Passes Act to Allow Shops & Businesses Remain Open 24X7**

- ✦ The Gujarat state Assembly has passed a new Act 'Gujarat Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 2019' that will allow shops and other businesses in the state to operate 24 hours.

- ✦ The act, passed by the state Assembly in February, was notified on May 1, a government release.
- ✦ The shops and commercial entities operating near state highways and within municipality limits can now operate between 6 am to 2 am.

#### **6. Vice President to embark on a four-day visit to Vietnam**

- ✦ The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu will embark on a four-day official visit to Vietnam from May 09. His visit is expected to enhance India's comprehensive strategic partnership with the Southeast Asian nation.
- ✦ Upon his arrival in Vietnam's Capital Hanoi, Shri Naidu will address the Indian Community at a reception hosted by the Ambassador of India.
- ✦ Shri Naidu's participation at the event is expected to further strengthen ties between India and Buddhist communities worldwide.

#### **7. Indian giant Amul to sponsor Afghanistan in 2019 World Cup**

- ✦ Amul has been announced as the principal sponsor of the Afghanistan cricket team for the upcoming World Cup, slated to be held in England and Wales from May 30.
- ✦ The logo of brand Amul will appear on the leading arm of the Afghanistan team playing jerseys as well as on the training kits throughout the showpiece event.
- ✦ Afghanistan will play two warm-up matches against Pakistan and England on May 24 and 27 respectively before beginning their World Cup campaign against Australia on June 1.

#### **8. PM Modi 2nd most followed politician globally on social media**

- ✦ Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the second most followed politician in the world on social media after former US President Barack Obama.
- ✦ Modi has a total audience of 110.9 million on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Obama's total following stood at 182.7 million.
- ✦ Congress party President Rahul Gandhi has accumulated 12 million followers on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

## **International News & Foreign Affairs**

#### **1. G7 Countries gathered in France to discuss climate crisis**

- ✦ Environmental ministers from G7 countries gathered in the French city of Metz, to discuss concrete climate actions and adopt a charter on biodiversity.
- ✦ The G7 countries of France, Canada, Germany, the United States, Japan, Italy, the UK, along with delegations from Mexico, Chile, Niger, Gabon, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Fiji, Norway and the European Union, are all attending the summit.

- ✦ The aim of this is to combat inequalities, deforestation, drought, plastic garbage along with coral reef protection and adopt a charter on biodiversity.

## **2. India and U.S. Hold Bilateral Trade Meeting**

- ✦ India and the United States held the India-U.S. Bilateral Trade meeting in New Delhi.
- ✦ Both sides agreed to deepen economic cooperation and bilateral trade by ensuring greater cooperation amongst stakeholders, including Government, businesses and entrepreneurs.
- ✦ Both sides expressed satisfaction over the progress during the year 2018, with bilateral trade in Goods and Services registering a growth of 12.6% from \$ 126 billion in 2017 to \$142 billion in 2018.

## **3. Microsoft unveils its own Blockchain-based service**

- ✦ Microsoft has unveiled fully-managed Azure Blockchain Service that would simplify the formation, management and governance so that businesses can focus on workflow logic and application development.
- ✦ Microsoft has also announced a partnership with J.P. Morgan to make "Quorum" the first ledger available in Azure Blockchain Service.
- ✦ IBM and Amazon Web Services (AWS) have already started Blockchain-based services.

## **4. Tiger Woods receives highest civilian honour in the US from Donald Trump**

- ✦ Tiger Woods, who stunned the sports world when he won his fifth Masters title last month, received his country's highest civilian honour, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, from U.S. President Donald Trump
- ✦ Trump, an avid golfer, described the 15-times major champion as a "a global symbol of American excellence, devotion and drive".
- ✦ It is awarded annually to people who have made outstanding contributions to the security or national interests of the country.

## **5. Visa appoints Sujatha V Kumar as Head of Marketing for India and South Asia**

- ✦ Visa announced the appointment of Sujatha V Kumar as Head of Marketing for India and South Asia.
- ✦ She will be driving overall marketing strategy and execution including consumer, retail and digital marketing initiatives for India and the emerging markets of Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and the Maldives.
- ✦ Prior to this, Sujatha was with Google as Head - Brand & Reputation, Marketing and Strategy.
- ✦ Sujatha started her career at Procter & Gamble and, over the years, has gathered rich experience in sales and marketing across companies such as Gillette, Nokia, The Royal Bank of Scotland and Coca-Cola.

## **6. India's Jagjit Pavadia re-elected to International Narcotics Control Board**



- ✦ In a significant victory, India's Jagjit Pavadia was re-elected to the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) for another term.
- ✦ She posted the highest number of votes at 44. Ms Pavadia has been a member of the INCB since 2015 and her current term is set to expire in 2020.
- ✦ The victory added to India's successful record of winning crucial elections at the UN and to the world organisation's subsidiary bodies.

#### **7. India, Bangladesh to produce movie on Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman**

- ✦ India and Bangladesh will jointly produce a movie based on the life of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. It will be directed by eminent Indian filmmaker Shyam Benegal.
- ✦ A meeting was held between delegation of Information and Broadcasting Ministry led by Secretary Amit Khare and visiting Bangladeshi delegation in this regard in New Delhi.
- ✦ A working agreement on cooperation between All India Radio and Bangladesh Betar was also agreed upon between the two countries, implementation of which would start from June.

#### **8. Airtel and Hughes to merge their India VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) operations**

- ✦ Bharti Airtel has decided to merge its broadband satellite, or VSAT, business with that of market leader Hughes Communications India, to create a stronger no. 1 in the space.
- ✦ VSAT is used to provide satellite based telecom and internet access to individuals and enterprise users. The new company will continue to be called Hughes Communications India Ltd., but the name could be changed in future.
- ✦ Hughes Communications will own 67% share of the new entity while Airtel will own the rest.

#### **9. Microsoft unveils open source software 'ElectionGuard' for secure, verifiable voting**

- ✦ In a bid to help countries ensure secure and verifiable voting, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella has announced "ElectionGuard" -- a free open-source software development kit (SDK).
- ✦ ElectionGuard" will enable end-to-end verification of elections, open results to third-party organisations for secure validation.
- ✦ During the process of vote-casting, voters have an optional step that allows them to confirm that their trackers and encrypted votes accurately reflect their selections.

#### **10. Singapore passes controversial 'fake news' law which critics fear will stifle free speech**

- ✦ Singapore has passed a controversial bill that could equip the government with extensive powers to police online media and free speech.

- ✚ The bill was first drafted last month and, as had been expected, it passed 72-9 in Singapore's parliament, dominated by the ruling People's Action Party (PAP).

### 11. World's first 'zero waste' flight takes off in Australia

- ✚ The first-ever commercial flight to produce "zero waste" has taken to the skies as part of a new initiative from the Australian airline Qantas to cut single-use plastics that end up in landfill.
- ✚ Flying from Sydney to Adelaide, all products and packaging onboard QF739 will either be reused, recycled or disposed of as compost.
- ✚ As well as all-digital boarding passes and electronic bag tags, around 1000 single-use plastic items were swapped for more environmentally friendly alternatives.

## Banking

### 1. SBI Card raises ₹700 crore from banks, including parent bank to fund growth

- ✚ SBI Card raised ₹700 crore from several financial institutions including its parent State Bank of India (SBI) in the second half of FY19 as it aims to grow above the industry average.
- ✚ SBI Card is over 4 million cards behind the private sector lender at 7.9 million outstanding credit cards in the same period.
- ✚ The ₹700-crore fundraise is part of SBI Card's plan to raise ₹1,500 crore in a few tranches.

### 2. RBI directs banks to enhance housing loan limits for eligibility under priority sector lending

- ✚ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed banks to enhance the housing loan limits for eligibility under priority sector lending (PSL) to Rs 35 lakh in metropolitan centres (with population of ten lakh and above) and Rs 25 lakh in other centres.
- ✚ In order to bring the RRBs and SFBs at a level playing field with other Scheduled Commercial Banks, it has now been decided to enhance the housing loan limits for eligibility under PSL.
- ✚ Earlier, loans to individuals up to Rs 28 lakh in metropolitan centres and Rs 20 lakh in other centres, were eligible to be classified under priority sector.

### 3. Mastercard commits Rs 7,000 crore investment in India in next 5 years

- ✚ Global payments giant Mastercard plans to invest \$1 billion in its India operations over the next five years

- ✦ Mastercard is expected to invest the remaining amount to grow locally and to expand the team that services its overseas operations.
- ✦ This investment will help foster innovation and increase Mastercard's speed-to-market capabilities and value-added services.

#### **4. 15th Finance Commission to hold meetings with RBI, banks, financial institutions**

- ✦ The 15th Finance Commission will have meetings with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), banks and financial institutions on May 8 and 9 in Mumbai.
- ✦ The Commission is likely to discuss views on key macro-economic assumptions, cost of borrowings for the Centre and states, requirements for the recapitalisation of banks.
- ✦ The other issues that would come up during the deliberation include market driven borrowing cost and debt trajectories of states.

#### **5. Max Life Insurance to Mark 6th of Every Month as Protection Day**

- ✦ Max Life Insurance Co Ltd, one of industry's foremost life insurance companies, announced that it will dedicate 6th day of every calendar month as 'Protection Day' towards driving awareness around the concept of financial protection.
- ✦ As a part of this initiative, a wide range of initiatives will be rolled out across Max Life's network of over 240 Max Life's offices and a wider network of its distribution partners.
- ✦ As a part of the initiative the Company will also drive a "Super Customer Week", where customers across the board will be educated about various aspects of financial protection.

## **New Appointments & Person in News**

#### **1. Myntra appoints Virat Kohli, Anushka Sharma as first brand ambassadors**

- ✦ Flipkart-owned fashion e-commerce platform Myntra announced that it had appointed celebrity couple Virat Kohli and Anushka Sharma as its first brand ambassadors.
- ✦ Myntra has launched an integrated campaign called 'Go Myntra-la-la' which will be promoted across television, print, digital and outdoor.
- ✦ According to the 2018 Duff & Phelps celebrity brand valuation report, Kohli and Sharma, or 'Virushka' as they are popularly known, are the biggest 'power couple' in terms of brand promotions after Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh.

#### **2. Paytm president Bhushan Patil quits**

- ✦ Bhushan Patil, president at Paytm, has quit the company.

- ✦ Patil, who joined Paytm after a five year stint with Alibaba, had initially joined the Noida-based company to look after its cross border commerce business.
- ✦ With Paytm focusing on its domestic commerce business, he was one of the key executives for Paytm Mall. Patil joined Paytm in March 2016.

### **3. Bombay Stock Exchange appoints first independent woman Director Jayshree Vyas to board**

- ✦ BSE, formerly known as the Bombay Stock Exchange, has finally appointed its first independent woman director Jayshree Vyas.
- ✦ BSE already has two non-executive women directors namely Usha Sangwan and Rajeshree Sabnavis on its Board.
- ✦ The Companies Act of 2013 mandates a certain class of companies to have at least one woman director on board.

### **4. Barcelona legend Xavi Hernandez announces retirement**

- ✦ Barcelona midfielder Xavi Hernandez has announced that the 2018/19 season will be his final one as a professional footballer.
- ✦ Xavi, who currently plays for Al-Sadd in Qatar, holds the all-time appearances record at FC Barcelona with 767, and scored 85 goals from 1998 to 2015.
- ✦ Xavi was the first captain of the team for his final season, following the retirement of Carles Puyol.

### **5. Serbian Dragan Mihailovic appointed new Indian men's team coach**

- ✦ The Volleyball Federation of India appointed Serbian Dragan Mihailovic as head coach of the men's national team in a move linked to the long term goal of Olympic Games qualification.
- ✦ The VFI also announced the appointment of Pryemyslaw Gaszyoski and Valadimir Radosevic as the team's physio trainer and physiotherapist respectively.
- ✦ All the three have been appointed for five months and will work with the team for the Asian Championships scheduled to be held in Iran during September.

## **Science Tech & Defence**

### **1. Japanese private firm sends first rocket into space**

- ✦ An aerospace startup in Japan has successfully launched a rocket into space. It's the first privately developed Japanese spacecraft to reach orbit.
- ✦ The unmanned rocket named MOMO-3 took from a test site in Taiki on the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido. The successful flight lasted about 10 minutes, and came after two failed launches by the same company in 2017 and 2018.



- ✦ The MOMO-3 rocket weighs about 1.15 metric tons and is capable of carrying payloads of up to 20 kilograms (44 pounds) — although it cannot yet send them into orbit.

## 2. SpaceX Launches Cargo Mission For NASA To The International Space Station

- ✦ SpaceX has successfully launched a cargo mission for NASA to the International Space Station (ISS), its fifth launch of the year, after being delayed by a few days due to a couple of issues.
- ✦ The launch had originally been scheduled to take place earlier, But an electrical problem on the ISS caused the mission to be pushed back while the problem was resolved. The spacecraft will now make its way to the ISS, and is set to arrive in the early morning of Monday, May 6.
- ✦ It carries 2,500 kilograms of research, supplies and hardware for astronauts living and working on ISS as part of the CRS-17 mission (17th resupply mission).

## 3. Indian Navy's frontline missile destroyer INS Ranjit to be decommissioned on May 6

- ✦ Indian Navy's frontline missile destroyer - INS Ranjit - would be decommissioned at the naval dockyard in Visakhapatnam on May 6 after serving for 36 years.
- ✦ INS Ranjit is the third of the five Kashin-class destroyers built by erstwhile USSR. It was commissioned in 1983.
- ✦ The ship was commissioned as INS Ranjit on September 15, 1983, with Captain Vishnu Bhagwat at the helm.

## 4. Chhattisgarh Deploys All-Women Anti-Naxal Commando Unit

- ✦ The Chhattisgarh police for the first time has inducted thirty women commandos in Dantewada of Bastar region and have deployed them in Malangir.
- ✦ The 30 women are surrendered women Maoists and this is also a bid to lure Maoists women to join mainstream forces.
- ✦ Of the 30 recruits, 10 are surrendered women Naxals, while 10 others are assistant constables who were part of the erstwhile Salwa Judum (anti-Naxal militia) movement.

# Important days

## 1. May 7th observed as World Asthma Day

- ✦ World Asthma Day 2019 is observed on May 7. Asthma is referred to a chronic disease of airways - which transport air from the lungs.
- ✦ The theme of this year is “STOP for Asthama”

- ✚ World Asthma Day was first celebrated in the year 1998 by the GINA in more than 35 countries. The first "World Asthma Meeting" was held in Barcelona, Spain.

## **Books & Author**

### **1. Shahid Afridi recently released his autobiography, titled 'Game Changer'.**

- ✚ Pakistan's former captain and star all-rounder Shahid Afridi recently released his autobiography, titled 'Game Changer'.
- ✚ The book, co-authored by Afridi and journalist Wajahat S Khan, details some interesting and exciting information from the cricketer's life.
- ✚ He also holds the distinction of having hit the most number of sixes in the history of ODI cricket.

## **Awards**

### **1. India's Saurav Ghosal and Joshna Chinappa claim individual titles in Malaysia**

- ✚ In a memorable day for India, Saurav Ghosal and Joshna Chinappa won the individual titles in the Asian Squash Championship. Saurav Ghoshal defeated Leo Au Chun Ming of Hong Kong.
- ✚ Joshna Chinappa, the second seed, successfully defended her title, beating the top seed Annie Au of Hong Kong 11-5, 8-11, 11-6, 11-6 in the summit clash.
- ✚ Joshna last beat Annie Au in September 2017 in the Hong Kong International Open.

### **2. Indian-origin journalist conferred with V K Krishna Menon award**

- ✚ G D 'Robert' Govender, an Indian-origin journalist in South Africa, has been honoured in the UK with 2019 V K Krishna Menon award for his outstanding contribution as a pioneer of decolonised journalism.
- ✚ The South Africa-born journalist was awarded posthumously during an event to mark the 123rd birth anniversary of Indian diplomat and politician V K Krishna Menon.
- ✚ Govender's books include 'The Martyrdom of Patrice Lumumba' which exposed the role of Western intelligence agencies in the murder of the Congolese independence leader.

## Obituaries

### 1. Father of Indian Modern Legal Education Dr. NR Madhava Menon Passes Away

- ✦ Father of modern legal education in India, Dr.NR Madhava Menon has passed away.
- ✦ He is known for changing the face of Indian legal education by pioneering the establishment of National Law Schools.
- ✦ He was the founder Director of the National Law School of India University (NLSIU) and the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal and the founder Vice Chancellor of the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS).
- ✦ Menon was honored by the Government of India, in 2003, with the fourth highest Indian civilian award of Padma Shri.

**LIST OF ALL INDIA TOPPERS FROM IBT**

|   |   |  |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| <b>SUBHOJIT CHAKRABORTY</b><br><b>SBI PO - 2016</b><br>Roll No.: 38407295966<br>  | <b>SACHIN ZANWAR</b><br><b>SBI PO - 2018</b><br>Roll No.: 2550139022<br>  | <b>SHALINI SINGH</b><br><b>IBPS PO - 2017</b><br>Roll No.: 1580179828<br>  | <b>LOVE GUPTA</b><br><b>SSC CGL - INSPECTOR</b><br>Roll No.: 2201295176<br>  | <b>MOHA VASHISTHA</b><br><b>SSC CGL - INSPECTOR</b><br>Roll No.: 3840729596<br>  | <b>AASTHA SIHAG</b><br><b>SSC CGL - INSPECTOR</b><br>Roll No.: 2201399971<br>  |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|