

Current Affairs

(Jan-March 2018)

Union Budget & Economic Survey



JANUARY

- Which state is the second State from Northeast, after Sikkim to be declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) state recently?
(a) Mizoram (b) Arunachal Pradesh
(c) Nagaland (d) Tripura
- Which Legendary Bengali actor was awarded France's highest civilian award, Legion d'Honneur.
(a) R. Chatterjee (b) Runitra Chatterjee
(c) Raghu Banerjee (d) Soumitra Chatterjee
- NASA is going to launch Parker Solar Probe in 2018 to explore the ——— outer atmosphere.
(a) Jupiter (b) Sun
(c) Saturn (d) Mars
- Which country has announced a 40 percent increase to the minimum wage?
(a) Venezuela (b) Argentina
(c) Peru (d) Chile
- Which cricket team has won the 2017 Ranji Trophy tournament?
(a) Hyderabad (b) Gujarat
(c) Chhattisgarh (d) Vidarbha
- Who succeeded S. Jaishankar as Foreign Secretary of India ?
(a) Vijay Keshav Gokhale
(b) Dnyaneshwar M. Mulay
(c) Hasmukh Adhia
(d) Ruchi Ghanashyam
- What is the aim of Bhavantar Bharpai scheme?
(a) to calculate rates of crops
(b) to provide basic help to farmers
(c) to give price deficit compensation to farmers
(d) to provide seeds at less prices
- Which country has banned the domestic trade in ivory?
(a) US (b) South Africa
(c) Australia (d) China
- Which city has banned public display of weapons?
(a) Delhi (b) Mumbai
(c) Kolkata (d) Jaipur
- Recently which two language versions of Prime Minister's Official website- www.pmindia.gov.in were launched?
(a) Assamese and Urdu
(b) Assamese and Manipuri
(c) Manipuri and Sanskrit
(d) Assamese and Konkani
- Which ministry has launched the online portal 'NARI' for women empowerment?
(a) Ministry of External Affairs
(b) Home Ministry
(c) Ministry of Women and Child Development
(d) None of the above
- Haryana government has made _____ mandatory in new buildings.
(a) Architect Certificate
(b) Window Inspection Scheme
(c) Water Purifiers
(d) Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant
- Which state signs host city contract for 39th National Games in 2022 ?
(a) Meghalaya (b) West Bengal
(c) Bihar (d) Kerala
- Vocalist Radha Vishwanathan passed away recently. She belonged to which state?
(a) Kerala (b) Karnataka
(c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Telangana

15. Which is the first country to legalize Equal pay?
 (a) Iceland (b) Finland
 (c) Mexico (d) France
16. Who has named best central bank Governor in Asia-Pacific?
 (a) Raghuram Rajan
 (b) MAS Ravi Menon
 (c) Arundhati Bhattacharya
 (d) Muhammad Yunus
17. The first India-Vietnam Bilateral Army Exercise was conducted at Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh?
 (A) IRON FIST (B) MAITRI
 (C) VINBAX (D) INDIRA
18. Saksham Yadav, who passed away recently, was associated with which sports?
 (a) Powerlifting (b) Badminton
 (c) Chess (d) Boxing
19. Who has become the first African-American to win Golden Globe for best actor in a drama television series at the 75th Golden Globe Awards 2018?
 (a) Aziz Ansari
 (b) Ewan McGregor
 (c) Sterling K Brown
 (d) Alexander Skarsgard
20. Which chief minister of India has been bestowed with the 1st Mufti Mohammed Sayeed Probity in Politics and Public Life Award?
 (a) Nitish Kumar
 (b) Pema Khandu
 (c) Sarbananda Sonowal
 (d) N. Chandrababu Naidu
21. Which among the given railway stations on Central Railway (CR) in Mumbai has become the first all-women railway station of India to be entered in the Limca Book of Records?
 (a) Matunga (b) Chinchpokli
 (c) Thane (d) Dombivli
22. Phillipe Coutinho is related to which of the following sports?
 (a) Hockey (b) Football
 (c) Tennis (d) Athletics
23. East Jerusalem has been announced by Arab States as the capital of ————.
 (a) Israel (b) Palestine
 (c) Jordan (d) Hamas
24. Which island has become the first cashless island in India?
 (a) Lakshadweep (b) Karang
 (c) Manjuli (d) None of the above
25. Which of the following cities has recorded highest GER for girls in higher education?
 (a) Jaipur (b) Udaipur
 (c) Chandigarh (d) Mumbai
26. Which of the following states has become the first state in the country to launch high-risk pregnancy (HRP) portal?
 (a) Punjab (b) Bihar
 (c) Gujarat (d) Haryana
27. The international kite festival which attracts kite flyers from across the country and the world began on Sunday in _____.
 (a) Surat (b) Vadodara
 (c) Gandhinagar (d) Ahmedabad
28. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)?
 (a) Sunny Verghese (b) Kapil Mohan
 (c) Paul Polman (d) None of the above

29. Who has been appointed as the next Secretary of the Department of Space and Chairman of Space Commission and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)?
 (a) Anuradha TK (b) Subbiah Arunan
 (c) Tessy Thomas (d) K. Sivan
30. Aanchal Thakur has become the first Indian to win an international medal in skiing. She hails from which state?
 (a) Punjab (b) Himachal Pradesh
 (c) Kerala (d) Odisha
31. Who has been appointed as MD & CEO of National Payments Corporation of India?
 (a) A.P. Hota (b) Devendra Chawla
 (c) Sunil Sood (d) Dilip Asbe
32. Supreme Court has declared playing the national anthem before screening movies in cinema halls is not mandatory. The bench was headed by whom?
 (a) D Y Chandrachud (b) Dipak Misra
 (c) A M Sapre (d) JS Khehar
33. Name the creator of iconic Old Monk rum who died recently at the age of 88.
 (a) Vijay Malya
 (b) Ram Mohan Meakns
 (c) Kapil Mohan
 (d) None of the above
34. What is the name of Sanjay Manjrekar's autobiography?
 (a) The Race of My Life
 (b) My story
 (c) Ace Against Odds
 (d) Imperfect
35. India has emerged as the top borrower from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) in the year 2017 with loan amount worth of USD _____billion.
 (a) USD 1.5 bn (b) USD 2 bn
 (c) USD 1 bn (d) USD 2.5 bn
36. Which railway station has become the India's 1st Railway Station to have 'Happy Nari' Pad-Vending Machine?
 (a) Mumbai railway station
 (b) Bhopal railway station
 (c) Tirupati railway station
 (d) Howrah Junction Railway Station
37. Recently, Which country allows women aged 25 and above to visit the country without a male companion?
 (a) Oman (b) Egypt
 (c) Saudi Arabia (d) Iran
38. Kagiso Rabada, who recently became the top-ranked bowler in Test cricket, is the youngest bowler ever to top the ICC Test rankings for bowlers belongs to which country?
 (a) Pakistan (b) South Africa
 (c) India (d) None of the above
39. Iron Fist is the joint military drill between America and which country?
 (a) Israel (b) Iran
 (c) Japan (d) UK
40. After India which country has teamed up with Nepal Telecom to provide alternate cyber-connectivity to Nepal.
 (a) Bangladesh (b) Myanmar
 (c) Russia (d) China
41. Agriculture ministers of ASEAN countries met for the fourth sitting was held in which city?
 (a) New Delhi (b) Hyderabad
 (c) Kochi (d) Chennai
42. According to Gallup International Survey, who ranked No. 1 World Leader?
 (a) US President Donald Trump

- (b) French President Emmanuel Macron
(c) Russian President Vladimir Putin
(d) German chancellor Angela Merkel
43. Which new feature is about to be added as an additional security feature for Aadhaar verification?
(a) Sound Identifier
(b) Face Identification
(c) Thumb Impression
(d) None of the above
44. Which country has ordered to reimpose ban on women buying alcohol?
(a) Iran (b) India
(c) China (d) Sri Lanka
45. The Indian Army is celebrating year 2018 as the -----.
(a) The Year of Disabled Soldier in the Line of Duty
(b) The Time of Courageous Soldiers in the Line of Duty
(c) The Year of Brave Fighters
(d) None of the above
46. India was ranked at which place among emerging economies on Inclusive Development Index (IDI-2018) released by World Economic Forum (WEF)
(a) 100 (b) 62
(c) 138 (d) 34
47. Who has been named as the Chairman of Finance Commission of Indian Olympic Association?
(a) Anil Khanna
(b) Nalini Ranjan Sarker
(c) Kamal Kumar
(d) Sohrab Bhoot
48. India & which country have inked 9 pacts to boost cooperation in key areas, including cybersecurity and energy?
(a) Japan (b) Saudi Arab
(c) Israel (d) Russia
49. Which country bans import of non-airbag equipped vehicles from July 1?
(a) India (b) Sri Lanka
(c) Pakistan (d) South Africa
50. According to International Monetary Fund India to grow at ----- in 2018?
(a) 7.0% (b) 7.3%
(c) 7.2% (d) 7.4%
51. Who has won Swedish Open Junior Badminton Title?
(a) Siddharth Singh (b) P V Sindhu
(c) Saina Nehwal (d) HS Prannoy
52. While, India has emerged as the fifth most attractive market for investments and the optimism over global economic growth, which country remains the top spot for global investment?
(a) Japan (b) China
(c) US (d) Germany
53. The first International Dam Safety Conference-2018 was held in which state in India?
(a) Kerala (b) Tamil Nadu
(c) Punjab (d) Uttar Pradesh
54. Who has been took charge as Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala?
(a) Y.V.N. Krishna Murthy
(b) S Pandian
(c) P. Kunhikrishnan
(d) Scientist S. Somanath
55. 48th annual meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF) has begun in which country?
(a) Austria (b) Switzerland

- (c) Italy (d) France
- (b) Rajasthan
(c) Punjab
(d) Gujarat
56. How many Children won National Bravery Awards from Narendra Modi?
(a) 18 (b) 15
(c) 25 (d) 35
57. Who Presented National Bravery Awards to 18 children?
(a) Shri Arun Jaitley
(b) Shri Suresh menon
(c) Shri Rajesh Sharma
(d) Shri Narendra Modi
58. Which day is celebrated on 25th January recently?
(a) National Earth day
(b) National Youth Day
(c) National Voters Day
(d) National Science day
59. Which award did Tamil Nadu CM Edappadi K Palanichamy received recently?
(a) Padma Shri Awardees
(b) UNESCO Award
(c) Padma Bhushan
(d) Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award
60. Which state has banned the sale of Tobacco at shops selling FMCG items?
(a) Gujarat (b) Karnataka
(c) Maharashtra (d) Madhya Pradesh
61. India has exchanged MoUs for cooperation in the field of Information and Broadcasting and space with which nation?
(a) Vietnam (b) Cambodia
(c) Indonesia (d) Philippines
62. Which among the following state government has launched the Shakti App recently in a bid to ensure the safety of women population of the state?
(a) Himachal Pradesh
63. Name the India's first indigenously developed vaccine which has received the "pre-qualified" tag by the World Health Organisation.
(a) Rubevac Vaccine
(b) Norovac Vaccine
(c) Pneumovac Vaccine
(d) Rotavac Vaccine
64. The Doomsday Clock which symbolises the current threat of global annihilation is now set at _____ mins to midnight, the closest since 1953.
(a) 2 mins (b) 3 mins
(c) 4 mins (d) 5 mins
65. Among the following pairs, who won the Australian Open women's doubles title?
(a) Ekaterina Makarova & Elena Vesnina
(b) Serena Williams & Venus Williams
(c) Timea Babos & Kristina Mladenovic
(d) Sara Errani & Roberta Vinci
66. India beats which country in Four Nations Invitational Tournament recently?
(a) Pakistan (b) Japan
(c) Australia (d) Bangladesh
67. India and ———— released first ever set of commemorative postage stamps to mark the long-term friendly bilateral relationships between the two countries.
(a) Israel (b) Nepal
(c) US (d) Vietnam
68. Who has been elected as the President of Finland?
(a) Sauli Niinisto
(b) Stefan Lofven
(c) Valentina Matviyenko

- (d) Erna Solberg
69. Which among the given has received the best Album of the Year award at the 60th Annual Grammy Awards?
(a) Melodrama (b) Damn
(c) 24K Magic (d) 4:44
70. Recently the Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik, released a book on his father titled 'The Tall Man Biju Patnaik'. Who is the author of the book?
(a) Sundar Ganesan
(b) Sampad Patnaik
(c) Debabrata Mohanty
(d) Prem Nath Pandey
71. According to a recent survey conducted by GoBankingRates, what is the rank of India among 112 countries in terms of cheapest country to live or retire?
(a) First (b) Second
(c) Third (d) Fourth
72. Among the following countries, which country has become the top-ranked T20 side in international cricket?
(a) New Zealand (b) India
(c) Pakistan (d) Australia
73. Ingvar Kamprad, who died recently, was a founder of which famous furniture company?
(a) Ashley Furniture
(b) IKEA
(c) American Signature
(d) Crate & Barrel
74. Who won the Men's Singles title at the Australian Open?
(a) Roger Federer (b) Novak Djokovic
(c) Rafael Nadal (d) Andy Murray
75. Dharmasena Pathiraja, the renowned filmmaker has passed away. He hailed from which country?
(a) Myanmar (b) India
(c) Maldives (d) Sri Lanka
76. Who has won the men's singles title at the 2018 Even Sports National Senior Table Tennis Championship?
(a) Sharath Kamal (b) G. Sathiyam
(c) Manav Thakkar (d) Anthony Amalraj
77. Which among the following stadiums will host the finals of the 2020 ICC World T20 of both the men's and women's?
(a) Salt Lake Stadium, India
(b) Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), Australia
(c) Bidvest Wanderers Stadium, South Africa
(d) Lord's Cricket Ground, United Kingdom
78. Who is the author of the book titled "Speaking Truth to Power"?
(a) Shashi Tharoor
(b) Chetan Bhagat
(c) Manmohan Singh
(d) P Chidambaram
79. Where Narendra Modi launched the first Khelo India School Games?
(a) Kolkata (b) New Delhi
(c) Bengaluru (d) Pune
80. Who wins the first gold medal of Khelo India School Games?
(a) Anu Kumar (b) Avadh Naresh
(c) Neel Roy (d) P. Vikas

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B	D	B	A	D	A	C	C	C	B
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
C	D	A	B	A	B	C	A	C	A
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
A	B	B	B	C	D	D	A	D	B
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
D	B	C	D	A	B	C	B	C	D
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
A	B	B	D	A	B	A	C	B	D
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
A	C	A	D	B	A	D	C	B	C
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
A	A	D	A	C	B	D	A	C	A
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
B	C	B	A	D	A	B	D	B	A

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- Which state government has launched Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) project to promote organic farming?
(a) Punjab (b) Himachal Pradesh
(c) West Bengal (d) Assam
- Who has been appointed the new director general of the Sports Authority of India (SAI)?
(a) Neelam Kapoor (b) Parag Kishore
(c) Nandani Jain (d) Rajiv Saxena
- The 2018 Data Privacy Day (DPD) is observed on which date?
(a) January 30 (b) January 31
(c) January 29 (d) January 28
- Which union minister has launched 8 Peta Flops High Performance Computer (HPC) system 'Mihir'?
(a) Arun Jaitley (b) Suresh Prabhu
(c) Harsh Vardhan (d) Nitin Gadkari
- Which country has become the world's largest steel producer in 2017, as per latest report published by World Steel Association (WSA)?
(a) Japan (b) India
(c) United States (d) China
- What is the theme of the 2018 World Leprosy Day (WLD)?
(a) Zero Child Leprosy
(b) Leprosy defeats, Live transform
(c) Zero Disabilities in girls and boys
(d) To live is to help to live
- What is the India's rank in the 2017 EIU Global Democracy Index?
(a) 42nd (b) 64th
(c) 33rd (d) 21st
- Which city is hosting the 7th India Energy Congress (IEC) 2018?
(a) Jaipur (b) New Delhi
(c) Bhopal (d) Shimla
- Where is the India's largest Floating Treatment Wetland (FTW) inaugurated?
(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Jharkhand
(c) Hyderabad (d) Rajasthan
- The National Power Training Institute (NPTI) is located in which city?
(a) New Delhi (b) Chennai
(c) Dehradun (d) Faridabad
- Which city is hosting the first-ever International Kala Mela?
(a) New Delhi (b) Surat
(c) Kolkata (d) Jaipur
- The 2018 World Cancer Day (WCD) is observed on which date?
(a) February 5 (b) February 3
(c) February 4 (d) February 2
- Which State Government has approved Ghodazari as a new wildlife sanctuary in the state?
(a) Odisha (b) Punjab
(c) Maharashtra (d) Goa
- Who has been sworn-in as the new Chief Justice of Bangladesh?
(a) Md. Muzammel Hossain
(b) Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
(c) Mohammad Shafiul Alam
(d) Syed Mahmud Hossain
- Which union ministry has launched Green Good Deeds campaign?
(a) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
(b) Ministry of Women and Child Development
(c) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
(d) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- The unique, first-of-its-kind, floating market has come up in which city of West Bengal?
(a) Siliguri (b) Jalpaiguri
(c) Kolkata (d) Medinipur

17. Which HRD Ministry-appointed committee is drafting new National Education Policy (NEP)? (a) Ram Shanker Kureel committee (b) K Kasturirangan committee (c) V G S Rathore committee (d) KJ Alphonse committee
18. In the Union Budget 2018, the Central Government has allocated Rs 48,000 crore for which scheme to encourage farmers for solar farming? (a) KUSUM scheme (b) KUTSUB scheme (c) KUSUN scheme (d) KUTUB scheme
19. Who is the newly appointed Chief Executive of the Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC)? (a) Dinesh Srivastava (b) Garima Singh (c) Nitin Chopra (d) Vikram Jha
20. Sudha Karmarkar, the veteran theatre artist has passed away. She hailed from which state? (a) Tamil Nadu (b) Karnataka (c) Goa (d) Maharashtra
21. What is the theme of the 2018 National Science Day (NSD)? (a) Science for Nation Building (b) Scientific Issues for Development of the Nation (c) Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future (d) Science and Technology for Specially Abled Persons
22. Who has won the 2017 Laureus World Sportsman of the Year, Comeback of the Year awards and became the most decorated male winner in the history of Laureus World Sports Awards? (a) Roger Federer (b) Virat Kohli (c) M S Dhoni (d) Cristiano Ronaldo
23. Vijayendra Saraswathi has become the 70th Shankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. The Hindu monastic institution is located in which state? (a) Kerala (b) Tamil Nadu (c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Karnataka
24. Which state cricket team has won the 2018 Vijay Hazare trophy? (a) Saurashtra (b) Maharashtra (c) Hyderabad (d) Karnataka
25. India won how many medals at the 69th Strandja Memorial Boxing Tournament in Bulgaria? (a) 5 (b) 11 (c) 7 (d) 10
26. The Davis Cup, in existence since 1900, may be converted into a 'World Cup of ----' from next year. (a) Tennis (b) Hockey (c) Polo (d) Cricket
27. With its latest edition, 'India-2018' Book has entered into its ---- year of publication? (a) 65th (b) 63rd (c) 62nd (d) 61st
28. Which Indian sportsman has clinched the men's singles title at the Austrian Open International Challenge badminton tournament? (a) Srikanth Kidambi (b) H. S. Prannoy (c) B. Sai Praneeth (d) Parupalli Kashyap
29. Aruna Budda Reddy has created history by becoming the first Indian gymnast to win an individual medal at the 2018 Gymnastics World Cup. She hails from which city? (a) Kochi (b) Hyderabad (c) Chennai (d) Kolkata

30. Which city is hosting the third Partnership Summit of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)?
 (a) Bhubaneswar (b) Kochi
 (c) Visakhapatnam (d) Chennai
31. Who is the author of the book 'Exam Warriors' ?
 (a) Narendra Modi (b) Sumitra Mahajan
 (c) Kavita Goyat (d) Arvind Kejriwal
32. Name the Legendary Bollywood actress who died in Dubai on 24-02-2018?
 (a) Reema Lagoo
 (b) Sridevi
 (c) Sulabha Deshpande
 (d) Pratyusha Banerjee
33. ICC Test Championship Mace was presented to which cricket team for the second consecutive year for being the number one Test team?
 (a) India (b) South Africa
 (c) England (d) Australia
34. Which city is hosting the 4th Nepal Buildcon and Wood International Expo 2018?
 (a) New Delhi (b) Shimla
 (c) Lucknow (d) Kathmandu
35. Which city is hosting the 2018 International Conference on Unani Medicine?
 (a) New Delhi (b) Burhanpur
 (c) Patna (d) Kochi
36. Chandrasekhar Rath, the veteran litterateur has passed away. He hailed from which state?
 (a) Jharkhand (b) Odisha
 (c) Manipur (d) Uttar Pradesh
37. Which Indian personality has been conferred the 'Grand Collar of the State of Palestine' ?
 (a) Sushma Swaraj (b) Lata Mangeshkar
 (c) Narendra Modi (d) Amitabh Bachchan
38. Which union minister has launched ASH TRACK Mobile App to monitor fly ash from thermal plants?
 (a) R. K. Singh (b) Giriraj Singh
 (c) Mahesh Sharma (d) Hardeep Singh Puri
39. What is India's rank in the International Intellectual Property (IP) index released by the US Chamber of Commerce?
 (a) 30 (b) 44
 (c) 35 (d) 40
40. Who has been appointed as non-executive chairman of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)?
 (a) B Sambamurthy
 (b) Dilip Asbe
 (c) Biswamohan Mahapatra
 (d) Uttam Nayak
41. The 2018 National Unani Day (NUD) is celebrated on which date in India?
 (a) February 10 (b) February 13
 (c) February 12 (d) February 11
42. Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of SBI Card?
 (a) Hardayal Prasad (b) Vijay Jasuja
 (c) Dinesh Khara (d) Puneet Gulgotia
43. The Almatti Dam is built on which river in Karnataka?
 (a) Krishna River (b) Kaveri River
 (c) Godavari River (d) Brahmaputra River
44. The 2018 National Productivity Day (NPD) is observed on which date in India?
 (a) February 09 (b) February 12
 (c) February 11 (d) February 10
45. Under whose chairmanship the 4th meeting of Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM) held in New Delhi?
 (a) Narendra Modi
 (b) Arun Jaitley
 (c) Arvind Panagariya
 (d) Bibek Debroy

46. Asma Jehangir, the iron lady of which country passed away recently?
 (a) Srilanka
 (b) Bangladesh
 (c) Pakistan
 (d) India
47. Which Indian swimmer has become the first Asian to swim across Ocean Seven?
 (a) Bhakti Sharma (b) Ashwin Menon
 (c) Rehan Poncha (d) Rohan More
48. Kishan Gangolli has won the 13th edition of National Chess Championship for blind. He hails from which state?
 (a) Karnataka (b) Odisha
 (c) West Bengal (d) Assam
49. Which hockey team has won the 8th Senior National Women's Hockey Championship tournament-2018?
 (a) Madhya Pradesh
 (b) Railway Sports Promotion Board
 (c) Jharkhand
 (d) Haryana
50. The first-of-its-kind Centre for learning Sanskrit language has come up in which city?
 (a) Chennai (b) Ahmedabad
 (c) Delhi (d) Patna
51. Which is the first state to launch "Modicare", a National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS) ?
 (a) Goa (b) Rajasthan
 (c) Punjab (d) West Bengal
52. Which union minister has released India's first-ever Highway Capacity Manual (Indo-HCM) in New Delhi?
 (a) Arun Jaitley (b) Nitin Gadkari
 (c) Maneka Gandhi (d) Narendra Modi
53. The National Sugar Institute (NSI) is located in which city of Uttar Pradesh?
 (a) Lucknow (b) Kanpur
 (c) Agra (d) Varanasi
54. Which Indian-origin personality has been honoured with the Scientific and Engineering Academy Award at the Oscars Scientific and Technical Awards 2018?
 (a) Vikas Sathaye (b) Jignesh Kumar
 (c) TS Jain (d) Vandana Sharma
55. Which state hosted the 6th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Regional Conference?
 (a) Chhattisgarh (b) Bihar
 (c) West Bengal (d) Assam
56. The 54th Munich Security Conference (MSC-2018) was held in which country?
 (a) France (b) Belgium
 (c) Brazil (d) Germany
57. Who has inaugurated the 8th edition of Theatre Olympics 2018?
 (a) Narendra Modi
 (b) Ram Nath Kovind
 (c) M Venkaiah Naidu
 (d) Sumitra Mahajan
58. Which state to launch cheap sanitary pad scheme "Asmita Yojana" for rural women?
 (a) Punjab (b) Haryana
 (c) Maharashtra (d) Rajasthan
59. Which oil company to introduce Asia's first large scale CO₂ injection technique at Gandhar field?
 (a) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation
 (b) Indian Oil Corporation Limited
 (c) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited
 (d) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
60. Who has been conferred with the 5th edition of Yash Chopra Memorial Award 2018?
 (a) Jackie Shroff (b) Asha Bhosle
 (c) Poonam Dhillon (d) David Dhawan
61. India and which country has recently signed pact to avoid double taxation & to prevent fiscal evasion?

- (a) Israel (b) Myanmar
(c) Iran (d) Sri Lanka
62. Which state is hosting the National Banana Festival (NBF) 2018?
(a) Karnataka (b) Odisha
(c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Kerala
63. The Ranganadi Dam is located in which state?
(a) Punjab
(b) Arunachal Pradesh
(c) Himachal Pradesh
(d) Jammu & Kashmir
64. Which country to host the 2018 SAARC Business Leaders' Conclave?
(a) Nepal (b) Myanmar
(c) India (d) Sri Lanka
65. Which Indian sportsman has clinched the men's singles title at the Austrian Open International Challenge badminton tournament?
(a) Srikanth Kidambi
(b) H. S. Prannoy
(c) B. Sai Praneeth
(d) Parupalli Kashyap
66. Aruna Budda Reddy has created history by becoming the first Indian gymnast to win an individual medal at the 2018 Gymnastics World Cup. She hails from which city?
(a) Kochi (b) Hyderabad
(c) Chennai (d) Kolkata
67. Who authored the book "Hari Singh Nalwa: Champion of the Khalsaji – 1791-1837"?
(a) Vanit Nalwa
(b) Aravind Adiga
(c) Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
(d) Rohinton Mistry
68. The longest- serving prime minister Ruud Lubbers was from which country?
(a) Netherlands (b) Mongolia
(c) Argentina (d) Sweden
69. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently launched the Ombudsman Scheme for NBFCs. The NBFC Ombudsman will have office in which of the following cities?
(a) Kolkata (b) Chennai
(c) New Delhi (d) All of the above
70. Which city hosted the 4th edition of Economic Times – Global Business Summit (ET-GBS 2018)?
(a) Pune (b) New Delhi
(c) Mumbai (d) Hyderabad
71. The International Conference on Sustainable Biofuels (ICSB-2018) will be organized in which city?
(a) Patna (b) Guwahati
(c) New Delhi (d) Shillong
72. Kunwar Bai, the brand ambassador of Swachh Bharat has passed away. She was native of which state?
(a) Chhattisgarh (b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Bihar (d) Rajasthan
73. Neelabh Mishra, who passed away recently, was associated with which field?
(a) Sports (b) Law
(c) Journalism (d) Film Industry
74. In June 2018 China will host Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit in which city?
(a) Chengdu (b) Qingdao
(c) Wuhan (d) Tianjin
75. Who has been reappointed as the Governor of the Bank of Japan?
(a) Haruhiko Kuroda
(b) Masaaki Shirakawa
(c) Toshihiko Fukui
(d) Masaru Hayami
76. Who become the first player in history to score 100 Champions League goals for the same club?
(a) Eden Hazard
(b) Paul Pogba

- (c) Neymar
(d) Cristiano Ronaldo
77. In which city India's first radio festival is being held to mark World Radio Day?
(a) Vizag (b) Gurugram
(c) Chennai (d) New Delhi
78. App ——— of India have won awards at recently concluded 6th World Government Summit 2018 in Dubai.
(a) Aadhaar and Umang App
(b) Aadhaar and NARI App
(c) SFOORTI App and Umang App
(d) Shakthi App and Umang App
79. Which of the following movies won the Best Film award at the British Bafta Film awards 2018?
(a) Moonlight
(b) The Darkest Hour
(c) Three Billboards
(d) The Shape of Water
80. Who has become the No. 1 male tennis player as per the latest ATP rankings released recently?
(a) Rafael Nadal (b) Roger Federer
(c) Andy Murray (d) Leander Paes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B	A	D	C	D	C	A	B	C	D
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
C	A	B	D	B	A	C	D	B	C
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
A	B	A	D	A	B	C	A	B	C
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
D	A	A	B	D	C	D	A	B	B
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
D	B	B	A	B	D	C	C	A	B
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
C	D	B	A	D	B	A	A	D	B
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
C	A	C	B	A	D	D	A	C	B

MARCH

- Name the first female who has been appointed as Chief of United Nations Department of Political Affairs (DPA)?
(a) Jeffrey Feltman
(b) Taya-Brook Zerihoun
(c) Rosemary DiCarlo
(d) Miroslav Jenca
- Which city will host the 2020 Summer Olympics?
(a) Beijing
(b) Tokyo
(c) Greece
(d) Mumbai
- With which country India held the meeting on Indus water treaty?
(a) China
(b) Russia
(c) Sri Lanka
(d) Pakistan
- Which country has test fired Submarine Launched Cruise Missile named SLCM Babur?
(a) Iraq
(b) Israel
(c) Bangladesh
(d) Pakistan
- RBI imposes fine on which bank for violating rules?
(a) YES Bank
(b) ICICI Bank
(c) HDFC Bank
(d) IndusInd Bank
- Which Union Ministry has launched "Green Good Deeds" campaign?
(a) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
(b) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
(d) Ministry of AYUSH
- Who has been appointed as Group Chief Risk Officer by Punjab National Bank (PNB)?
(a) A K Pradhan
(b) Sunil Mehta
(c) Sanjiv Saran
(d) None of the above
- Samina Baig, the first ——— woman to have climbed Mount Everest, was appointed as the national goodwill ambassador by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
(a) Chinese
(b) Nepali
(c) Indian
(d) Pakistani
- Which bank has appointed Sajeev Krishnan as a director?
(a) City Union
(b) IndusInd
(c) Dhanlaxmi
(d) Kotak Mahindra
- Who is elected as Next Armenian President recently?
(a) Armen Sarkisian
(b) Andrew Jackson
(c) James Monroe
(d) John Quincy Adams
- Who has been appointed as Director & Managing Director of HCL Infosystems?
(a) Premkumar Seshadri
(b) Rangarajan Raghavan
(c) Bimal Das
(d) Sutikshan Naithani
- What is the Name of Vietnam President?
(a) Ho Chi Minh
(b) Ton Duc Thang
(c) Truong Chinh
(d) Tran Dai Quang
- Which city 27th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup Hockey Tournament Begins?
(a) Malaysia
(b) Sweden
(c) Australia
(d) New York
- Name the 1st Indian Woman to Win Gold medal In Asian Wrestling Championship?
(a) Sakshi Malik
(b) Vinesh Phogat
(c) Kavita Devi
(d) Navjot Kaur
- Which island has created its virtual currency equaling USD?
(a) Neil Island
(b) Barren Island
(c) Munroe Island
(d) Marshall Island
- Who among the following will be sworn-in as Meghalaya's Chief Minister?
(a) Sarbananda Sonowal
(b) T.R. Zeliang
(c) Conrad Sangma
(d) Pema Khandu

17. Who has won the best actress award at the 90th Academy Awards 2018?
 (a) Allison Janney
 (b) Sally Hawkins
 (c) Frances McDormand
 (d) Saoirse Ronan
18. Which Indian chess master has clinched the 2018 Tal Memorial Rapid Chess tournament in Moscow?
 (a) Tania Sachdev
 (b) Koneru Humpy
 (c) Parimarjan Negi
 (d) Viswanathan Anand
19. Who is the author of the book titled 'How to be a Human', launched by Aamir Khan recently?
 (a) Mira Nair (b) Deepti Naval
 (c) Manjeet Hirani (d) Sunita Gowariker
20. Angela Merkel has been re-elected as Chancellor of Germany. This is her _____ term as leader of Europe's most powerful economy.
 (a) Second (b) Sixth
 (c) Third (d) Fourth
21. The 29th edition of the annual International Yoga Festival (IYF) was organized in which state?
 (a) Uttarakhand (b) Tamil Nadu
 (c) Gujarat (d) Karnataka
22. _____ from Pakistan's Sindh province has become the 1st ever Hindu Dalit woman Senator.
 (a) Neetu Kumari Batra
 (b) Krishna Oberoi
 (c) Krishna Kumari Kohli
 (d) Snigdha Sharma
23. Recently, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has approved the 69th membership of which country as 69th member?
 (a) India (b) Pakistan
 (c) Nepal (d) Myanmar
24. Neiphiu Rio has been appointed as the new Chief Minister of which state?
 (a) Tripura (b) Assam
 (c) Meghalaya (d) Nagaland
25. According to UNICEF child marriages have been declined to what percent in 2015-16 in India?
 (a) 20 per cent (b) 26 per cent
 (c) 27 per cent (d) 15 per cent
26. According to the recent Forbes Magazine list of billionaires 2018 who is the world's richest man?
 (a) Warren Buffet (b) Bill Gates
 (c) Jeff Bezos (d) Mark Zuckerberg
27. Which station has been named as the first 'all-women railway station' in Andhra Pradesh?
 (a) Nallapadu station
 (b) Chandragiri station
 (c) Dharmavaram station
 (d) None of the above
28. Pyare Lal Wadali, the famous sufi singer passed away. He belonged to which state?
 (a) Odisha (b) Punjab
 (c) Rajasthan (d) Uttar Pradesh
29. Name the President of France who was on a visit to India for strengthening the bilateral relation?
 (a) Edouard Philippe
 (b) Gerard Larcher
 (c) Emmanuel Macron
 (d) François de Rugy
30. The book titled Fulfilling Bapu's Dreams – Prime Minister Modi's Tribute to Gandhiji was launched recently. The book is written and published by _____.
 (a) Cambridge University Press India
 (b) Bluekraft Digital Foundation
 (c) Foundation Publishing House
 (d) National Book Trust of India

31. Recently, Madhya Pradesh became the first Indian state to pass death penalty bill for rape of girls aged 12 or below. Which is the second state to do the same?
 (a) Rajasthan (b) Haryana
 (c) Karnataka (d) Maharashtra
32. Who has been appointed as the first Indian brand ambassador of Uber?
 (a) Salman Khan (b) Shahrukh Khan
 (c) Akshay Kumar (d) Virat Kohli
33. Who among the following has become the first women to be inducted as the India's first direct-entry combat officer in the Indo-Tibetan Border Police?
 (a) Nusrat (b) Bhavya
 (c) Prakriti (d) Sukruti
34. Queen Elizabeth has conferred which award to Srishti Bakshi?
 (a) Business Award
 (b) Peace Award
 (c) BAFTA Award
 (d) Commonwealth Point of Light Award
35. Ayyasamy Dharun is from which athletic game?
 (a) Hurdles (b) Relay
 (c) Long Jump (d) Triple Jump
36. In which state, the world's largest solar park 'Shakti Sthala' was inaugurated?
 (a) Karnataka (b) Kerela
 (c) Rajasthan (d) Uttarakhand
37. 'Tobacco product regulation: Building laboratory testing capacity' guide was launched at?
 (a) Global Healthcare Summits
 (b) National Health Policy Conference
 (c) World Conference on Tobacco or Health
 (d) International Conference on Public Health 2018
38. Name the Indian women wrestler to attain world number 2 ranking in the 65kg weight category rankings released by United World Wrestling.
 (a) Sakshi Malik (b) Navjot Kaur
 (c) Bajrang Punia (d) Sangeeta Phogat
39. Based on the recent report of Global cyber security provider – Kaspersky Lab, what is the rank of India worldwide in the list of countries facing web-borne threats?
 (a) 47th (b) 25th
 (c) 29th (d) 33rd
40. Name the country which has won the highest number of medal at the 2018 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup in Mexico.
 (a) Italy (b) United States
 (c) Australia (d) India
41. Nguyen Huong Giang, was crowned "Miss International Queen" in Thailand at one of the world's top beauty pageants for transgender women, she is from which country?
 (a) Vietnam (b) Thailand
 (c) Philippines (d) Syria
42. In which state PM Modi and French President inaugurated 75 MW solar plant?
 (a) Himachal Pradesh
 (b) Uttar Pradesh
 (c) Haryana
 (d) Punjab
43. Name the renowned scientist who passed away on 14th March 2018?
 (a) Timothy Berners-Lee
 (b) Stephen Hawking
 (c) Jane Goodall
 (d) Alan Guth
44. In which State, India's tallest flag was unfurled?
 (a) Karnataka (b) Andhra Pradesh
 (c) Tamil Nadu (d) Kerala
45. Which bank launches online overdraft facility?

- (a) ICICI Bank (b) State Bank of India
(c) HDFC Bank (d) Axis Bank
46. Shubhankar Sharma is related to which of the following?
(a) Swimming (b) Hockey
(c) Golf (d) Wrestling
47. Which day is observed as International PI Day?
(a) 14 April (b) 11 March
(c) 12 April (d) 14 March
48. According to World Bank, by what percent Indian economy will grow in FY 19?
(a) 7.3% (b) 7.1%
(c) 8.3% (d) 7.9%
49. Who becomes Asian rank 1 in javelin F-53 category?
(a) Deepa Malik
(b) Sundar Singh Gurjar
(c) Rinku Hooda
(d) Devendra Jhajaria
50. Who was re-elected as China President?
(a) Li Xiannian (b) Hu Jintao
(c) Wang Qishan (d) Xi Jinping
51. Which country withdraws from International Criminal Court?
(a) Libya (b) Philippines
(c) Iraq (d) Qatar
52. Which country's cricket releases book on Jagmohan Dalmiya?
(a) Sri Lanka (b) India
(c) Pakistan (d) Australia
53. Who won gold medal with a world record score at the ISSF World Cup 2018 in Guadalajara, Mexico?
(a) Jitu Rai (b) Stan Wawrinka
(c) Martina Hingis (d) Shahzar Rizvi
54. Shigmotsav or Shigmo is the biggest Hindu festival celebrated in which state?
(a) Rajasthan (b) Gujarat
- (c) Goa (d) Odisha
55. Which state government bans use of plastic?
(a) Nagaland (b) Tripura
(c) Jharkhand (d) Maharashtra
56. Vladimir Putin won 4th term as President of which country?
(a) Russia (b) Poland
(c) Finland (d) US
57. Which state government imposes permanent ban on Hookah bars?
(a) Gujarat (b) Punjab
(c) New Delhi (d) Assam
58. What is "Saposhi"?
(a) Hurricane (b) Warship
(c) Malware (d) Navy Ship
59. Which cricket team wins Nidahas T20 tri-series cricket tournament?
(a) India (b) Bangladesh
(c) Sri Lanka (d) Australia
60. Who has been appointed as MD of Sony India?
(a) Rajeev Suri (b) Dinesh Paliwal
(c) Sanjay Jha (d) Sunil Nayyar
61. Name the Architect who won the architecture's highest honour - the Pritzker Prize 2018 for the first time?
(a) Caroline Dolehide
(b) Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi
(c) Simona Halep
(d) None of the above
62. Who has been re-elected as the Vice-President of Nepal for the second term?
(a) Parmanand Jha
(b) Nanda Kishor Pun
(c) Ram Baran Yadav
(d) Bidhya Devi Bhandari
63. Which country Bans Use Of Venezuelan Cryptocurrency Petro?

- (a) USA (b) Saudi Arabia
(c) Indonesia (d) India
64. Indian Army releases book on which Awardees?
(a) Dhyan Chand Award
(b) Ashoka Chakra
(c) Paramveer Chakra
(d) None of the above
65. Who has been appointed the Honorary Consul General for Denmark in Chennai?
(a) Vineet Mishra (b) Abhay Sharma
(c) Ankit Singh (d) Vijay Sankar
66. Which country's president resigns due to ill health?
(a) Slovakia (b) Myanmar
(c) Vietnam (d) Japan
67. The first G20 ministerial meeting 2018 of finance ministers and central bank governors has kicked off in which country?
(a) China (b) United States
(c) Argentina (d) India
68. Which country hosted the Gulf Shield-1, the military exercise of 23 countries?
(a) Kuwait (b) UAE
(c) Saudi Arabia (d) Egypt
69. Who presented the Padma awards to 43 eminent personalities in Ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan?
(a) M Venkaiah Naidu
(b) Narendra Modi
(c) Prakash Javadekar
(d) Ram Nath Kovind
70. Which country's mathematician wins Abel Prize 2018?
(a) Canada (b) Mexico
(c) Panama (d) Greenland
71. Kerala declares which fruit as official fruit of state?
(a) Cashew (b) Grapes
(c) Jackfruit (d) Litchi
72. Mercer's 20th annual Quality of Living survey, which city is named the world's most liveable city?
(a) Baghdad (b) Tirana
(c) Luanda (d) Vienna
73. Which day was observed as World Water Day?
(a) 21 March (b) 22 March
(c) 21 April (d) 25th January
74. What is the rank of Mumbai Airport according to the consultancy firm Skytrax?
(a) 60th (b) 57th
(c) 63rd (d) 42nd
75. Which state governor has given additional charge as odisha governor?
(a) Bihar (b) Gujarat
(c) Maharashtra (d) Kerala
76. Which country has decided to remove three zeros off their currency to counter economic crisis?
(a) Ecuador (b) Uruguay
(c) Bolivia (d) Venezuela
77. Which Indian city has gained the highest spot in the 2018, Travellers Choice awards for Destinations by TripAdvisor?
(a) Bengaluru (b) Jaipur
(c) New Delhi (d) Mumbai
78. Les Payne hails from which country?
(a) America (b) Canada
(c) Panama (d) Cuba
79. Which frigate of the Indian Navy, was decommissioned in Mumbai, after over three decades of service?
(a) INS Kirpan (b) INS Sujata
(c) INS Ganga (d) INS Khanjar
80. Who among the following has won the gold in women's 10 metre Air Rifle event at the the ISSF Junior World Cup, Australia?
(a) Zeena Khitta (b) Elavenil Valarivan
(c) Seema Tomar (d) Shreya Agrawal

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31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
A	D	C	D	A	A	C	B	D	D
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
A	B	B	A	A	C	D	A	A	D
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
B	A	D	C	D	A	B	C	A	A
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
B	B	A	C	D	B	C	C	D	A
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
C	D	B	C	A	D	C	A	C	B



Themes of the Budget 2018

Farmers: for whom Government have committed to double the income in 5 years.

Rural Population: providing employment and basic infrastructure.

Youth: energizing them through education, skills and jobs.

Poor and the Underprivileged: strengthening the systems of social security, health care and affordable housing.

Budget Trend

Infrastructure: for efficiency, productivity and quality of life.

Financial Sector: growth and stability through stronger institutions.

Digital Economy: for speed, accountability and transparency.

Public Service: effective governance and efficient service delivery through people's participation.

Budget 2018-19

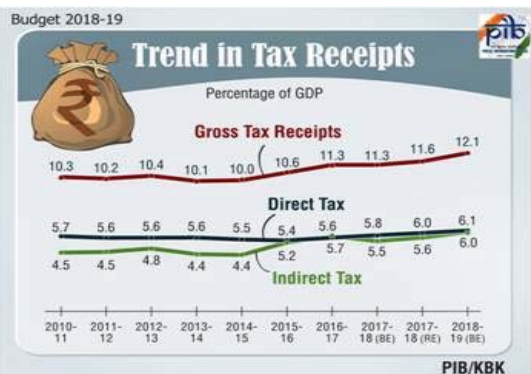
Budget Snapshot: Key Numbers

Figures in ₹ crore

	2016-17 Actuals	2017-18 Budget Estimates	2017-18 Revised Estimates	2018-19 Budget Estimates
Revenue Receipts	13,74,203	15,15,771	15,05,428	17,25,738
Capital Receipts*	6,00,991	6,30,964	7,12,322	7,16,475
Total Receipts	19,75,194	21,46,735	22,17,750	24,42,213
Total Expenditure	19,75,194	21,46,735	22,17,750	24,42,213
Revenue Deficit	3,16,381	3,21,163	4,38,877	4,16,034
Effective Revenue Deficit	1,50,648	1,25,813	2,49,632	2,20,689
Fiscal Deficit	5,35,618	5,46,531	5,94,849	6,24,276
Primary Deficit	54,904	23,453	64,006	48,481

*Excluding receipts under Market Stabilisation Scheme

PIB/KBK





- ✓ Indian economy has performed very well it has achieved an average growth of 7.5% in past three years. Indian economy is now 2.5 trillion dollar economy – seventh largest in the world.
- ✓ India is expected to become the fifth largest economy very soon. On Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) basis, Indian is the third largest economy.
- ✓ Indian society, polity and economy had shown remarkable resilience in adjusting with the

structural reforms. GDP growth at 6.3% in the second quarter signaled turnaround of the economy.

- ✓ At the international level, the country is ranked 100 in World Bank’s ‘Ease of Doing Business’ breaking into top 100 for the first time.
- ✓ IMF, in its latest Update, has forecast that India will grow at 7.4% next year.

Highlights of Union Budget 2018-19

TAX REVENUE 2018/19	SPENDING PROGRAMMES
R505.8 bn	<p>Over the next three years, government will spend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R528.4 billion on social grants. • In total, R324 billion is provided for higher education and training, including R57 billion of new allocations for fee-free higher education and training. • R792 billion on basic education, including R35 billion for infrastructure, and R15.3 billion for learner and teacher support materials, including ICT. • R667.8 billion on health, with R66.4 billion on the HIV, AIDS and TB conditional grant. • R123.3 billion on subsidised public housing. • R125.8 billion on water infrastructure and services. • R207.4 billion on transfers of the local government equitable share to provide basic services to poor households. • R129.2 billion to support affordable public transport.
R348.1 bn	
R231.2 bn	
R97.4 bn	
R84.8 bn	
R77.5 bn	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal income tax VAT Corporate income tax Customs and excise duties Other Fuel levies 	

Overview of the economy

- ✓ The GDP grew at 6.3 per cent in the second quarter of 2017-18 and is expected to grow at 7.2-7.5 per cent in the second half of 2017-18.

- ✓ Growth for 2018-19 is forecasted at 7.4 per cent by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Exports are expected to grow at 15 per cent in 2017-18.
- ✓ Fiscal deficit target for 2018-19 is set at 3.3 per cent of the GDP.

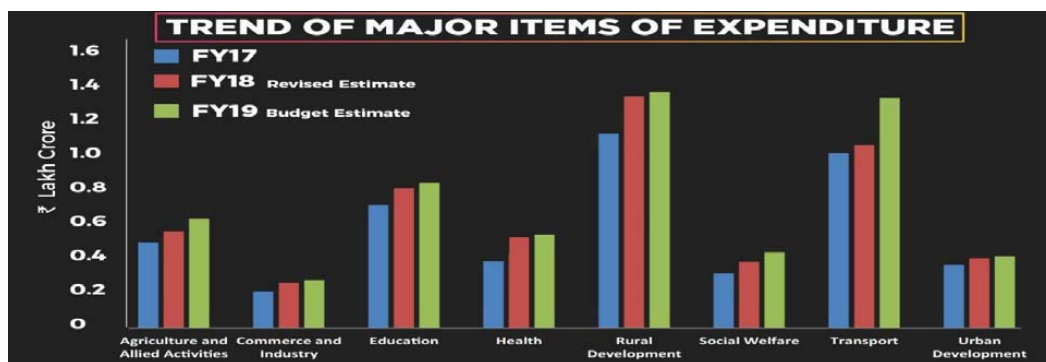
- ✓ Fiscal deficit for 2017-18 is revised to Rs 5.95 lakh crore (US\$ 93.54 billion) at 3.5 per cent of the GDP.

Important focus areas of Budget 2018:

- ✓ Government has taken up programmes to direct the benefits of structural changes and growth to reach farmers, poor and other vulnerable sections of our society and to uplift the underdeveloped regions.

- ✓ This year's Budget will consolidate these gains and particularly focus on
 1. strengthening agriculture and rural economy,
 2. provision of good health care to economically less privileged,
 3. taking care of senior citizens,
 4. infrastructure creation and
 5. working with the States to provide more resources for improving the quality of education in the country

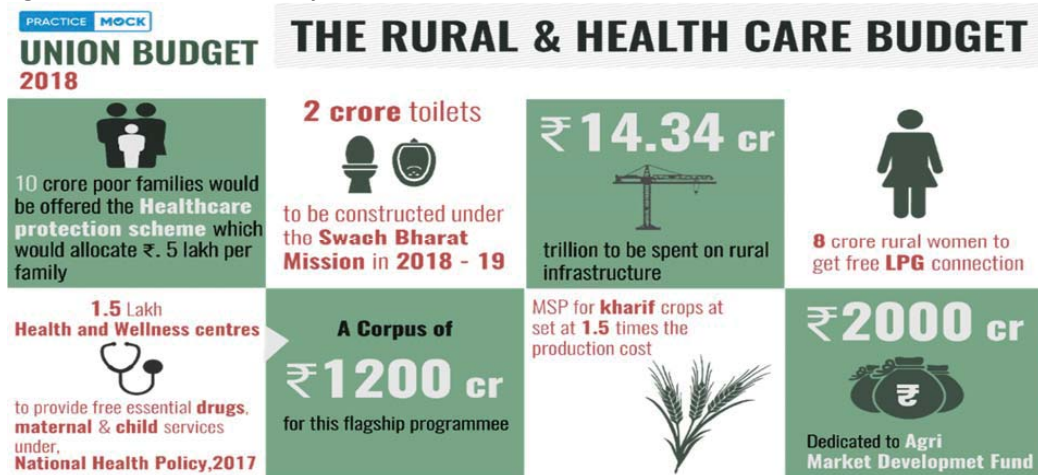
Fiscal Management



- ✓ Total budgeted expenditure for 2018-19 is set at Rs 2,442,213 crore (US\$ 383.93 billion).
- ✓ Central Government's debt to GDP ratio will be brought down to 40 per cent, as per the recommendations of the Fiscal Reform and Budget Management Committee.
- ✓ Growth in direct taxes for 2017-18 (up to January 15, 2018) has been 18.7 per cent while for 2016-17 it was 12.6 per cent.
- ✓ Number of effective tax payers increased to 80.27 million by 2016-17 end from 60.47 million in 2015-16 end.
- ✓ Revenue loss from the reduction in the tax rate during 2018-19 is estimated at Rs 7,000 crore (US\$ 1.1 billion).

- ✓ Deduction limit for health insurance premium and/ or medical expenditure is proposed to be increased from the present Rs 30,000 (US\$ 471.6) to Rs 50,000 (US\$ 786.02).
- ✓ Cess on personal income tax and corporation tax is proposed to be increased from 3 per cent to 4 per cent. The new cess will be called '**Health and Education Cess**'. The move is expected to result in additional tax revenue of Rs 11,000 crore (US\$ 1.73 billion)..
- ✓ The name of the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) to be Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).

Agriculture and Rural Economy



- ✓ The government is committed towards doubling the farmers' income by 2022.
- ✓ A total of Rs 14.34 lakh crore (US\$ 225.43 billion) will be spent for creation of livelihood and infrastructure in rural areas.
- ✓ Minimum Support Price (MSP) for all announced kharif crops will be at least one and half times of their production cost, similar to the majority of rabi crops.
- ✓ A restructured National Bamboo Mission will be launched with a total outlay of Rs 1,290 crore (US\$ 202.79 million).
- ✓ Development of cluster-based development of agri-commodities and regions
- ✓ More emphasis on Organic Farming
- ✓ Operation Greens-Budget has allocated Rs 500 crore for "Operation Green" – to promote Farmer

Fisheries and Animal Husbandry-

- ✓ Rs 10,000 crore for Fisheries and Aquaculture Infra Development Fund (FAIDF) and Animal Husbandry Infra Fund (AIHF). Extend the facility of

Kisan Credit Cards to fisheries and animal husbandry farmers to help them meet their working capital needs.

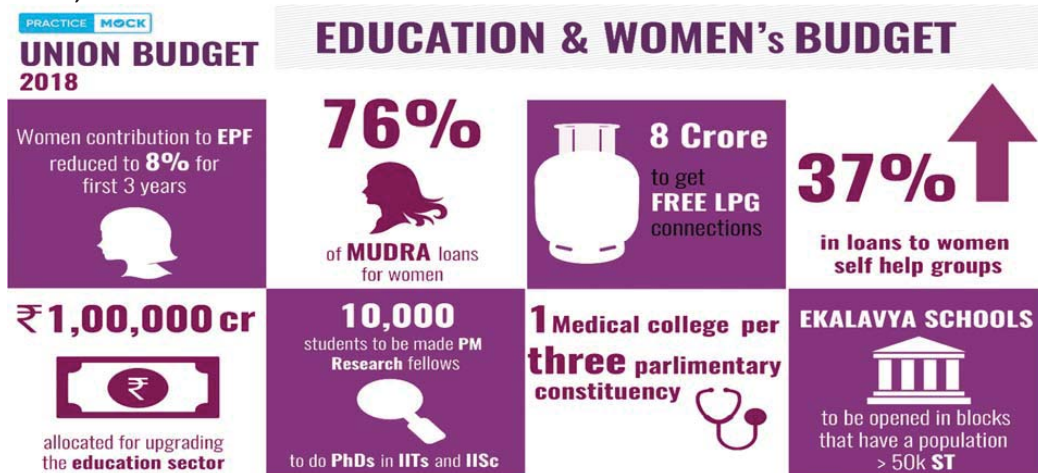
Bamboo Mission.

- ✓ Bamboo is 'Green Gold'. Recently, government removed bamboo grown outside forest areas from the definition of trees.

Food Processing Food Processing gets boost- Allocation of Ministry of Food Processing is being doubled from Rs 715 crore in RE 2017-18 to Rs 1400 crore in BE 2018-19.

- ✓ **Prime Minister Krishi Sampada Yojana is the flagship programme** for boosting investment in food processing
- ✓ **Expanding eNAM coverage for Farmers' Welfare**
- ✓ **Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund – Budget** has allocated corpus fund of Rs 2000 crore for agricultural market infrastructure. The fund will be used to connect 585 APMCs to eNAM by March 2018.

Health, Education and Social Protection



- ✓ Improvement in quality of teachers
- ✓ Integrated B.Ed. programme to be initiated for teachers, to improve quality of teachers.
- ✓ Technology will be used to upgrade the skills of teachers through the recently launched digital portal “**DIKSHA**”.
- ✓ Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) and Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)
- ✓ By 2022, every block with over 20,000 tribals and over 50 per cent STs will have a special **Ekalavya school**

Health Sector

Sarve bhavantu sukhinah, sarve santu niramayah

ॐ – is the guiding principle of the government. “Ayushman Bharat” programme

- ✓ government funded health care programme.
- ✓ Government has announced two major initiatives (Health and Wellness Centres and National Health Protection Scheme) as part of “**Ayushman Bharat**” programme aimed at making path breaking interventions to address health holistically, in primary, secondary and tertiary care system covering both prevention and health promotion.

National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS)

- ✓ World’s largest healthcare scheme.
- ✓ Covers 10 crore poor and vulnerable families i.e. 50 crore beneficiaries.





Sanitation

- ✓ To make our villages open defecation free and to improve the life of our villagers, government will launch a Scheme called **Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBAR-DHAN)** for management and conversion of cattle dung and solid waste in farms to compost, fertilizer, bio-gas and bio-CNG.
- ✓ Budgeted expenditure on health, education and social protection for 2018-19 is Rs 1.38 lakh crore (US\$ 21.69 billion) which is expected to increase by Rs 15,000 crore (US\$ 2.36 billion) after additional allocations during the year.
- ✓ Role of technology in the education sector will be increased with a focus on increased digital intensity.
- ✓ Government has set a target to construct at least 2 crore toilets under **Swachh Bharat Mission**

Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs)

Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs) are a major engine of growth and employment in the country.

TAXES & SENIOR CITIZEN'S BUDGET

<p>“NO” Changes in Personal Income tax slab rates have been made</p>	<p>Corporate tax Reduced 30% → 25% for companies that have a turnover > 250 cr in the FY 16-17</p>	<p>LTGC >1 Lakh  Listen in stock exchanges to be taxed at 10%</p>	<p>Standard Deduction Increased ₹ 40,000 Medical reimbursement ₹ 15,000 transport</p>
<p>₹ 50,000  Interest Income from banks & post offices exempted</p>	<p>Exemption of ₹ 50,000  on Health insurance premium/ Medical expenditure</p>	<p>Investment limit under PMVVY increased to 15 lakh for Senior Citizen </p>	<p>Exemption on critical illness expense ₹ 60,000 Senior Citizens ₹ 80,000 Very Senior Citizens</p>

- ✓ A total of Rs 3,790 crore (US\$ 596.43 million) has been provided for the MSME sector for credit support, capital and interest subsidy and innovations.
- ✓ Formalisation in the MSME sector is happening at a fast pace after the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and demonetisation.
- ✓ Lending under the MUDRA Yojana is targeted at Rs 3 lakh crore (US\$ 47.16 billion). At present 76 per cent of loan accounts under the scheme belong to women while more than 50 per cent belong to SCs, STs and OBCs.

Employment Generation

- ✓ As per an independent study conducted, over 7 million formal jobs will be created in the country during 2018-19.
- ✓ The Government of India will contribute 12 per cent of the wages of the new employees in the Employees' Provident Fund for all the sectors in the next three years.
- ✓ As per proposed amendments in the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, women employees' contribution to the EPF will be reduced to 8 per cent for the first three years of their employment with no change in employers' contribution. This is done to promote more women employment in the formal sector.
- ✓ Women contribution to EPF slashed for initial three years to 8 per cent.

Infrastructure and Financial Sector Development

- ✓ Investments in excess of Rs 50 lakh crore (US\$ 786.02 billion) are required in the country's infrastructure to increase the growth of GDP and connect and integrate country's transport network.
- ✓ There is a requirement of Rs 50 lakh crore for the infrastructure sector. He said that construction of a new tunnel at **Sera Pass** will also work in promoting tourism.

Urbanization

- ✓ Under the Smart Cities Mission, projects worth Rs 2,350 crore (369.43 million) have been completed and projects worth 20,852 crore (US\$ 3.82 billion) are under progress. A total of 99 cities have been selected under the mission with an outlay of Rs 2.04 lakh crore (US\$ 32.07 billion).
- ✓ Smart Cities Mission and the **AMRUT**
- ✓ To preserve and revitalize soul of the heritage cities in India - National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) has been taken up in a major way.
- ✓ A new initiative named '**Revitalising Infrastructure and Systems in Education (RISE)** by 2022' will be launched with an investment of Rs 1 lakh crore (US\$ 15.72 billion) over the next four years.
- ✓ For toll payments on highways, he said that the government will introduce a new system called "**pay as you use**"

Tourism

- ✓ Government proposes to develop ten prominent tourist sites into **Iconic Tourism destinations**.
- ✓ Tourist amenities at 100 Adarsh monuments of the Archaeological Survey of India will be upgraded to enhance visitor experience.
- ✓ Budgetary allocation for infrastructure is set at Rs 5.97 lakh crore (US\$ 93.85 billion) for 2018-19.
- ✓ Through the use of online monitoring system of PRAGATI, projects worth Rs 9.46 lakh crore (US\$

148.72 billion) have been facilitated and fast tracked.

Railways

- ✓ All-time high allocations have been made to the rail and road sectors.
- ✓ Budget will focus on Strengthening Railway network and capacity
- ✓ 12,000 wagons, 5160 coaches and approx. 700 locomotives to be produced during 2018-19.



- ✓ Capital expenditure in the railways sector for 2018-19 is set at Rs 148,528 crore (US\$ 23.35 billion).
- ✓ 12000 wagons, 5160 coaches and around 700 locomotives will be procured during 2018-19.
- ✓ Redevelopment of 600 major railway stations will be taken up.
- ✓ Electrification of around 4,000 km of railway tracks is expected to be commissioned in 2017-18.
- ✓ Work on eastern and western dedicated freight corridors is under progress.
- ✓ A dedicated institute to train manpower required for work on high speed rail projects will be established in Vadodara.

Road Infrastructure

- ✓ Ambitious **Bharatmala Pariyojana** has been approved for providing seamless connectivity of interior and backward areas and borders of the country.

AIRWAYS

- ✓ **Regional connectivity scheme of UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik)** – to connect 56 unserved airports and 31 unserved helipads across the country.
- ✓ Airport Authority of India (AAI) has 124 airports. Government proposes to expand airport capacity more than five times under a new initiative – NABH Nirman.

Defense Sector

- ✓ To secure India's defences, government plans to develop infrastructure and connectivity in border areas. (Rohtang tunnel has been completed to provide all weather connectivity to the Ladakh region.)

Environment

- ✓ **Air pollution**-Special scheme will be introduced to support governments of Haryana, Punjab and Delhi NCT to address air pollution and to subsidize machinery for management of crop residue.

Energy

- ✓ Rs 16,000 crore for **PM Saubhagya Yojana** was allocated for connecting 4 crore households with free electricity

Namami Gange programme

- ✓ Cleaning the Ganga is work of national importance.
- ✓ A total of 187 projects have been sanctioned under the Namami Gange programme for infrastructure development, river surface cleaning, rural sanitation and other interventions at a cost of Rs 16,713 crore

Ease of Living of a man

- ✓ Free LPG connections to women increased
- ✓ **Prime Minister's Ujjwala Scheme** to make poor women free from the smoke of wood. Initially,

government target was to provide free LPG connections to about 5 crore poor women. But now the target of providing free connection increased to 8 crore poor women.

Skill development and employment

opportunities

- ✓ **National Apprenticeship Scheme** with stipend support to give training to 50 lakh youth by 2020.
- ✓ Setting up of model aspirational skill centres in every district of the country under **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra**

Social security

- ✓ All 16 crore accounts under **PM Jan Dhan Yojana** will be included under micro insurance and pension schemes.

Digital Economy

BUDGET 2018-19
Initiatives in Gold Trading

- ◆ Policy to develop gold as an asset class to be formulated
- ◆ Consumer friendly and trade efficient system of regulated gold exchanges to be established
- ◆ Gold Monetization Scheme to be revamped to enable opening of a hassle-free Gold Deposit Account

The infographic features a circular collage of gold-related images on the left, the PIB logo on the right, and an illustration of a woman sitting at a desk with a computer monitor and stacks of gold coins.

- ✓ Budgetary allocation of Rs 3,073 crore (US\$ 483.09 million) for the Digital India programme is made for 2018-19.
- ✓ A national program will be initiated by NITI Aayog to increase efforts in the area of artificial intelligence.
- ✓ Budgetary allocation of Rs 10,000 crore (US\$ 1.57 billion) is made in 2018-19 for telecom infrastructure.

- ✓ 500,000 Wi-Fi hotspots will be set up by government to provide internet connectivity to over 5 million rural citizens.
- ✓ Every individual enterprise in India will be assigned a unique ID.
- ✓ **Internet Access (rural)** – proposes to set up **5 lakh wifi-hotspots** that will provide internet to five crore rural citizens in 2018-19.
- ✓ **Infrastructure** – provided **Rs.10,000 crore for creation and augmentation** of telecom infrastructure in 2018-19.

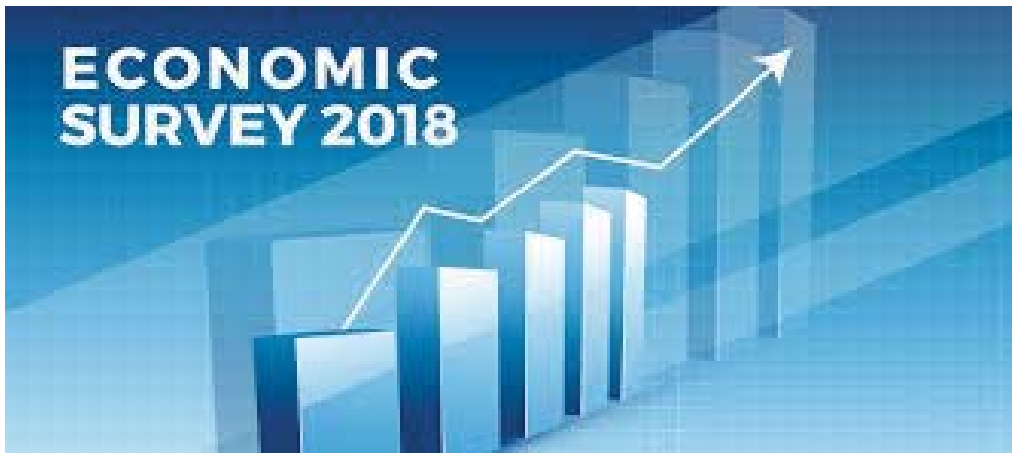
- ✓ **5G Centers** – Department of Telecom will support the setting up of indigenous 5G centre at IIT Madras.
- ✓ **Cryptocurrency** – Government doesn't consider cryptocurrencies as legal tender or coins. Will take all measures to prevent use of crypto-assets to finance illegitimate activities.

Disinvestment

- ✓ A target of Rs 80,000 crore (US\$ 12.58 billion) for disinvestment has been set for 2018-19.
- ✓ Target of 2017-18 has been exceeded and receipts have crossed Rs 1 lakh crore (US\$ 15.72 billion).
- ✓ National Insurance Co. Ltd., United India Assurance Co. Ltd., and Oriental India insurance Co. Ltd., will be merged into a single insurance entity.
- ✓ A comprehensive Gold Policy will be framed in order to develop gold as an asset class.
- ✓ A system for regulated gold exchanges across the country will be established.

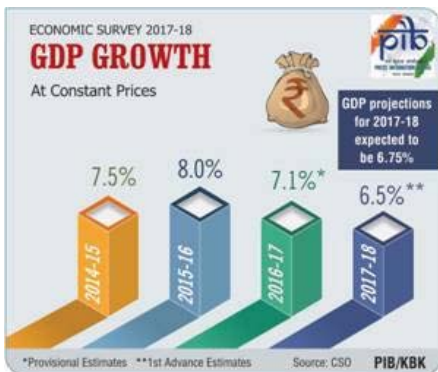
Miscellaneous

- ✓ A new law will be introduced that will automatically revise MPs' emoluments every five years, indexed to inflation.
- ✓ Govt. announced a Rs 150 crore fund to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ✓ **Salaries of President, VP and Governors will be increased. Rs. 5 lakh for President, Rs 4.0 lakh for VP and Rs 3.5 lakh for governors.** Salaries of Members of Parliament will also be raised.



Economic Growth

- **Projections** - The survey forecasts real GDP growth to reach 6.75% this fiscal.
- It is projected to rise to **7 - 7.5% in 2018-19**.
- The Gross Value Added (GVA) at constant basic prices is expected to grow at 6.1 % in 2017-18, as against the 6.6% in 2016-17.
- Agriculture, industry and services sectors are expected to grow at 2.1, 4.4 and 8.3 percentages respectively in 2017-18.



- **Comparative performance** - India's average GDP growth during last 3 years is around 4 percentage points higher than the global growth.

Inflation

- **Headline** - The Consumer Price Index (CPI) based headline inflation averaged to **3.3%** during 2017-18.

Monetary Management

- **Repo Rate** - Monetary policy during 2017-18 was conducted under the revised statutory framework that provided for the MPC.

Tax Collections



- Accordingly, the growth in direct tax collections of the Centre was at 13.7% during April-November 2017.

- The indirect taxes growth rate was 18.3% during the same period.
- The States' share in taxes grew by 25.2%.

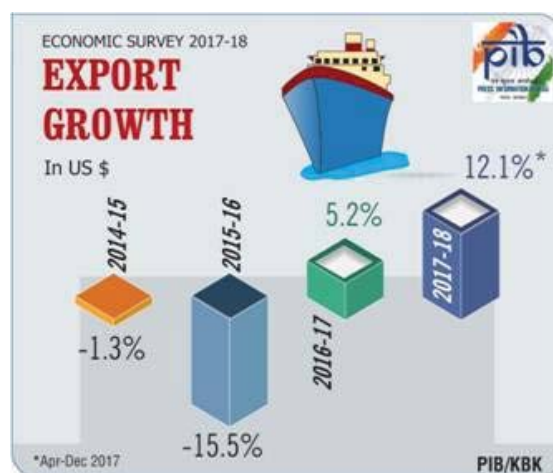
Banking Sector

- **NPA** - Banking sector performance, the PSBs in particular, continued to be subdued in the current financial year.
- The Gross Non-Performing Advances (GNPA) ratio of Scheduled Commercial Banks increased from 9.6% to 10.2% (Mar-Sep 2017)

Primary market - The year 2017-18 (April-November) witnessed a steady increase in resource mobilisation in the primary market segment.

External Sector

- India's external sector continued to be resilient and strong in 2017-18.
- **BoP** - India's balance of payments situation continued to be favourable in the first half of 2017-18 as since 2013-14.
- **CAD** - This is despite some rise in the Current Account Deficit (CAD) in the first quarter (Q1).
- India's CAD stood at US \$7.2 billion in Q2 of 2017-18.
- This translates to 1.2% of the GDP.
- **Trade Deficit** - India's trade deficit (on custom basis) had widened.
- It now stands at **US\$ 114.9 billion**.



Foreign Direct Investment

- FDI equity inflows registered a 0.8% growth in total during 2017-18 (April-October).
- But FDI Equity Inflows to the Services sector grew by 15%.

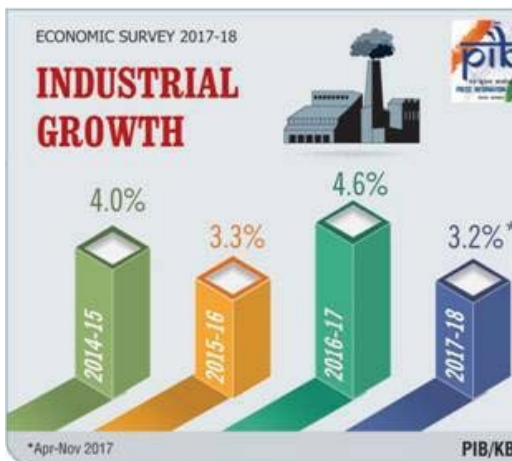
Trade Policy

- Two important developments on the trade policy front during the year relate to:
 - mid-term review of Foreign Trade Policy (FTP)
 - multilateral negotiations of WTO in December 2017
- **Foreign Exchange Reserves** - India's foreign exchange reserves reached **US\$ 409.4 billion** on end-December 2017.
- It is a growth by nearly 14% on a y-o-y basis from end December 2016.
- Given this, India is **6th largest foreign exchange reserve holder** among all countries of the world.



Industrial Sector

- **IIP** - Index of Industrial Production (IIP) (base year 2011-12) indicates industrial output increase of 3.2 % (April-Nov 2017-18).



- The production growth of Coal, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Steel, Cement and Electricity was positive during this period.
- **Performance indicators** - International ratings agency Moody's upgraded India's sovereign bond rating for first time in more than a decade.

- India ranked 100 out of 190 countries in Ease of Doing Business of the World Bank Report 2018.

Ease of Doing Business

- **Status** - India jumped 30 places to enter the top 100 for the first time in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Report, 2018.=
- **Concerns** - High number of delays and pendency of economic cases in Supreme Court, Economic Tribunals and Tax department.

Services Sector

- Out of the 32, in 15 states and UTs, the Services Sector is the dominant sector.
- It has contributed more than half of the Gross State Value Added (GSVA).
- However, there is wide variation in terms of share and growth of services GSVA in 2016-17.
- **Exports** India's services sector registered an export growth of 5.7% in 2016-17.
- India remained the 8th largest exporter in commercial services in the world in 2016.
- It comes with a share of 3.4% globally.

Climate change

- The average decline in rainfall between 1970's and 2000's is 26 mm in Kharif season and 33 mm in Rabi season
- Farm income losses of 15% to 18%, and further, 20% to 25% for unirrigated areas.

Agriculture and food management

- Growth rates of agriculture and allied sectors have been fluctuating: 1.5% in 2012-13, 5.6% in 2013-14, -0.2% in 2014-15, 0.7% in 2015-16, and 4.9% in 2016-17.
- The uncertainty in growth in agriculture is because 50% of agriculture is dependent on rainfall.