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## Important Current Affairs 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 with PDF

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### Important Current Affairs 1st December 2017

- **Ajay Kumar appointed secretary**
  - Ajay Kumar has been appointed as secretary in Department of Defence Production as part of a top-level minor bureaucratic reshuffle.
  - He is a 1985-batch IAS officer of Kerala cadre. He is at present additional secretary in Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
  - He has been appointed secretary in Department of Defence Production with effect from December 1, 2017.
- **Army, Rajasthan govt sign MoU**





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- Indian Army has signed a memorandum of understanding with Rajasthan State Government to improve infrastructure for their posts near the Indo-Pak border.
- As per the terms of the MoU, Indian Army will be able to use an airstrip in Lalgarh-Jatan area in Sri Ganganagar district of Rajasthan for 10 years.
- Rajasthan State Government has sanctioned funds for this airstrip.
- **Egyptian actress Shadia passed away**
  - Shadia, an Egyptian actress and singer who captivated Arab audiences for decades died.
  - Shadia's death was announced on Egypt's State Information Service website, which did not say where she died.
  - A stroke had left her in a coma at a Cairo military hospital recently. Shadia played roles in more than 100 films in a career that began in the late 1940s. Her parents called her Fatimah Shaker.
- **Rs. 52.24 crore penalty on BCCI**
  - The Competition Commission (CCI) imposed a fine of Rs 52.24 crore on the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for anti-competitive practices with respect to the Indian Premier League.
  - CCI had penalised the BCCI for the same amount in February 2013 as well.
  - CCI had said this penalty comes to nearly 4.48% of the average of the BCCI's relevant turnover during the last 3 financial years.
- **France claims its 10th Davis Cup**
  - France won its 10th Davis Cup title when France's Lucas Pouille beat Belgium's Steve Darcis by 6-3 6-1 6-0 to give France a 3-2 victory in the final against Belgium.
  - This is France's first title since they beat Australia in 2001 before three defeats in the final in 2002, 2010 and 2014.
  - Belgium has yet to win the title, having now lost three finals after defeats in 1904 and 2015.



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- **Parrikar launches app ‘Jai Kisaan’**
  - Goa CM Manohar Parrikar launched the Jai Kisaan App, a farmer engagement app containing features to fulfill the needs of the farmer community in India.
  - It is a one-stop solution on agricultural information and cultivation.
  - Its services include soil testing and customized information wherein farmers will have access to fertilizer recommendations on the basis of crop and target yields.
- **North Korea tests “Hwasong-15”**
  - North Korea has claimed that “Hwasong-15” is a new type of Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) that can strike anywhere on the US mainland.
  - Hwasong series represents the most successful and formidable part of its ballistic missile arsenal.
  - The missile was reported to have flown for 50 minutes on a very high trajectory, reaching 2,796 miles(4,500km) above the earth.
- **Planet Labs to launch 4 satellites**
  - Planet Labs Inc said four of its Dove satellites will be launched aboard India’s PSLV-C40 mission, scheduled to fly in January 2018.
  - Planet Labs Inc, a US-based integrated aerospace and data analytics company.
  - The primary payload for PSLV-C40 mission is Indian Space Research Organisation’s (ISRO) Cartosat-2 Series satellite, and Planet Lab’s four satellites will ride as secondary payload.
- **Dia Mirza appointed as Ambassador**
  - Actor-activist Dia Mirza has been appointed UN (United Nations) Environment’s Goodwill Ambassador for India.



- Dia Mirza is 35 years old. She has been recognised by the United Nations for her contribution to environment conservation.
- She will work with the UN to further spread the message on priority areas including clean air, clean seas, wildlife protection and climate change.
- **Rathna appointed as Chief Secretary**
  - The Karnataka government appointed senior woman IAS officer K Ratna Prabha as the new chief secretary of Karnataka.
  - She will be the third woman civil servant to hold the top bureaucratic post in Karnataka after Teresa Bhattacharya (2000) and Malati Das (2006) .
  - She is a 1981 batch IAS officer. She will succeed Subhash Chandra Khuntia, whose term ends on November 30, 2017.
- **Sibi George appointed as the Ambassador**
  - Sibi George was appointed the next Ambassador of India to the Holy See.
  - Sibi George is an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Officer of 1993 batch. He is presently Ambassador of India to Switzerland.
  - He has been concurrently appointed the next Ambassador of India to the Holy See, with residence in Berne. He is expected to take up the assignment shortly.
- **India-Lesotho Bilateral Ties**
  - India donated 500 metric tonnes of rice to the Kingdom of Lesotho, in Southern Africa, which is facing acute food shortage due to famine.
  - High Commissioner of India to South Africa and Lesotho, Ruchira Kamboj handed over the donation to the government of Lesotho.
  - Maseru is the capital of Lesotho.
- **Cooperatives not to use word 'Bank'**
  - Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked co-operative societies not use the word 'Bank' in their names as it violates the Banking Regulation Act.
  - RBI has specified that using 'bank' in the name of cooperative societies violates Section 7 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.



- As per the statement of RBI, such societies have not been issued any licence under the Banking Regulation Act.
- **Procurement of naval communication sets**
  - The Defence Ministry approved procurement of 260 naval communication sets at a cost of Rs490 crore to improvise surveillance on the high seas.
  - The decision to procure these communication sets was taken at a meeting of the Defence Acquisition Council chaired by Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
  - It will be the first batch of indigenously designed and developed “software defined” radio sets.
- **India, Italy sign MoU**
  - India and Italy signed a memorandum of understanding for enhancing bilateral cooperation in the health sector.
  - It was signed between Health Minister J P Nadda and Italian Health Minister Beatrice Lorenzin.
  - It envisages cooperation in health sector by pooling in technical, financial and human resources to upgrade infrastructural resources, medical education and research in both countries.
- **HEFA approves projects worth Rs. 2,067cr**
  - 2nd meeting of Higher Education Funding Agency (HEFA) Board was held on November 29, 2017.
  - During this meeting, HEFA board approved projects worth Rs. 2066.73 Cr to improve the research infrastructure in six institutions – IITs Bombay, Delhi, Madras, Kharagpur, Kanpur and NIT Suratkal.
  - These projects will help the institutions to improve their standing at the global level.
- **India-New Zealand Cyber Dialogue**
  - The first India-New Zealand Cyber Dialogue was held in New Delhi.



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- The Indian Delegation was led by Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.
- The New Zealand delegation was led by Mr. Paul Ash, Director of the National Cyber Policy Office, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.
- **India, Singapore ink pact**
  - India and Singapore inked a major pact on marine security in New Delhi.
  - The pact was signed during Singaporean Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen's visit to India.
  - Union Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Singaporean Defence Minister, Ng Eng Hen held wide-ranging talks, during which India and Singapore declared an intent to ensure freedom of navigation in critical sea lanes.
- **First Swarna Rajdhani rake**
  - Eastern Railways brought into service, the first rake of upgraded Sealdah – New Delhi 'Swarna' Rajdhani.
  - It is India's first Swarna Rajdhani rake under Project 'Swarna' of Indian Railways.
  - Under Project 'Swarna', Indian Railways had given a free hand to Zonal Railways to develop and create aesthetic and passenger friendly coach interiors on running rakes of Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains.
- **Global Entrepreneurship Summit**
  - Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES) 2017 was held in Hyderabad from 28th – 30th November 2017.
  - GES 2017 was hosted by NITI Aayog in partnership with Government of the United States of America.
  - It is the annual entrepreneurship gathering which serves as meeting point for emerging entrepreneurs and investors from around the world. Theme of GES 2017 was "Women First, Prosperity for All".



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