

CURRENT AFFAIRS



AUGUST 2018

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Current Affairs – August 2018

This is a guide to provide you a precise summary and a huge collection of Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) covering national and international current affairs for the month of **August 2018**.

This guide will help you in preparing for Indian competitive examinations like Bank PO, Banking, Railway, IAS, PCS, UPSC, CAT, GATE, CDS, NDA, MCA, MBA, Engineering, IBPS, Clerical Grade and Officer Grade, etc.

Audience

Aspirants who are preparing for different competitive exams like Bank PO, Banking, Railway, IAS, PCS, UPSC, CAT, GATE, CDS, NDA, MCA, MBA, Engineering, IBPS, Clerical Grade, Officer Grade, etc.

Even though you are not preparing for any exams but are willing to have news encapsulated in a roll, which you can walk through within 30 minutes, then we have put all the major points for the whole month in a precise and interesting way.

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Appointments

1. Justices Indira Banerjee, Vineet Saran and KM Joseph sworn-in as Supreme Court judges

Justices Indira Banerjee, Vineet Saran and K M Joseph were sworn in as judges of Supreme Court in the order of seniority notified by the Centre. Chief Justice of India, Justice Deepak Misra administered the oath of office to Justices Banerjee, Saran and Joseph. With this, the total number of judges in the apex court is 25.



Justice Indira Banerjee became Madras High Court judge on 5 February 2002 and Justice Vineet Saran was appointed to the Orissa High Court on 14 February 2002. Justice KM Joseph was appointed Uttarakhand High Court judge on 14 October 2004.

2. HSBC appointed Surendra Roshia as its new India CEO

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) has appointed Surendra Roshia as Chief Executive Officer for HSBC India, subject to regulatory approvals. Roshia succeeds Jayant Rikhye, who is taking a leave of absence for medical reasons.



Roshia, who is currently HSBC's Head of Financial Institutions Group (FIG) for Asia-Pacific, has 27 years of experience in financial services sector. He began his career in financial services when he joined HSBC's India operations in 1991.

3. Escorts Ltd appointed Nikhil Nanda as Chairman and Managing Director

The Board of Directors of Escorts Limited has appointed Mr. Nikhil Nanda as the Chairman and Managing Director of the company. He succeeded Mr. Rajan Nanda.



Nikhil Nanda was appointed as Managing Director of Escorts in 2013 and has been a key member of the Board since 1997. He was selected as one of five 'Indians who are global leaders of tomorrow' by the World Economic Forum. The Escorts Group is among India's leading engineering conglomerates, operating in the high-growth sectors of Agri Machinery, Material Handling, Construction Equipment and Railway Equipment.

4. Ajay Data becomes first Indian in ICANN

The nominating committee of Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) has selected Ajay Data as a new council member of Country Code Supporting Organisation (ccNSO). Ajay is the Founder & CEO of Data XGen Plus and a global leader in email linguistic services.

Ajay Data is the first Indian to have been selected as a member of ccNSO and will be representing India at a global level. He will be the custodian of Asia, Australia and Pacific Islands as a member of ccNSO.



5. NDA candidate Harivansh elected as Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha

NDA candidate Harivansh Narayan Singh has been elected as Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha defeating opposition nominee B K Hariprasad. Harivansh polled 125 votes as against 105 by Hariprasad in a division of voting in the House. Mr. Harivansh, a veteran journalist, represents the state of Bihar in the House as a JD(U) member.



The post was held before by Congress leader P. J. Kurien, who retired on July 1.

6. Justice Rajendra Menon takes charge as Chief Justice of Delhi HC

Justice Rajendra Menon was sworn in as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court. Delhi Lt. Governor Anil Baijal administered the oath of office to Menon, who was earlier the Chief Justice of Patna High Court.

The Delhi High Court with a sanctioned strength of 60 judges would continue to function with 35 judges even after Justice Menon takes charge as its Acting Chief Justice Gita Mittal has been elevated as the Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir High Court.



7. S Gopakumar appointed as Director and General Manager in UIIC

S Gopakumar was appointed as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of public sector non-life insurance firm, United India Insurance Company. Prior to this appointment, he served as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of GIC Housing Finance Ltd. He has worked in various responsibilities. He began his career with National Insurance Company Ltd. Other members in Top Management include Shri KB Vijay Srinivas as Director & General Manager and 4 other General Managers.



United India Insurance Company is the 2nd Largest General Insurance Company with premium of Rs.16000+ Crore in India.

8. R S Sharma re-appointed TRAI chairperson till 2020

Ram Sewak Sharma's tenure has been extended for 2 years to work as chairperson of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved reappointment of Sharma. Prior to working with TRAI, R.S. Sharma has experience of working in various government departments particularly dealing with IT-enabled programmes. He has also worked as Director General and Mission Director of the Unique Identification Authority of India.



TRAI is a statutory body set up Government of India to regulate telecom services and tariffs in India.

9. Rekha Sharma appointed as chairperson of National Commission for Women

54 years old Rekha Sharma was appointed as chairperson of National Commission for Women. Prior to this appointment, she had worked as member of the Commission and was holding the additional charge of chairperson after Lalitha Kumaramangalam demitted office. She will have duties to review constitutional and legal safeguards for women, advice government on policy matters and solve grievances related to women.



The National Commission for Women is the apex national level organisation of India with the mandate of protecting and promoting the interests of women.

10. Swaminathan Gurumurthy and Satish Marathe appointed as non-official directors in RBI board

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Swaminathan Gurumurthy and businessman Satish Kashinath Marathe have been appointed as non-official directors in RBI board by Center. The two have been appointed as part-time, non-official director for the period of four-years. Swaminathan Gurumurthy has been associated with Tamil Nadu politics and newspaper baron Ramnath Goenka as journalist and essayist. Marathe has served as chairman of United Western Bank.



There are 10 other in the Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India. Urjit R. Patel is Governor of RBI.

11. Justice Manjula Chellur took oath as APTEL Chairperson

Justice Manjula Chellur took oath as the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity under the Ministry of Power.

Prior to this appointment, Justice Chellur was the Chief Justice of Bombay High Court. She was the first woman Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court. She has also served as the Chief Justice of Kerala High Court and the first female judge of the Karnataka High Court.



12. Ashish Kumar Bhutani appointed as CEO of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

Personnel Ministry issued orders to appoint senior bureaucrat Ashish Kumar Bhutani as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) till May 2020. He is 1992 batch IAS officer.

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana is to provide insurance coverage and financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of any of the notified crop as a result of natural calamities, pests & diseases. The Maximum Premium payable by the farmers is 2% for all Kharif Food & Oilseeds crops, 1.5% for Rabi Food & Oilseeds crops and 5% for Annual Commercial/Horticultural Crops.



13. Justice VK Tahilramani appointed as Chief Justice of Madras High Court

Justice Vijaya

Kamlesh Tahilramani was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court replacing Chief Justice Indira Banerjee, as a Supreme Court judge. Justice Vijaya Kamlesh Tahilramani took oath in the presence of Governor Banwarilal Purohit at a ceremony at the Raj Bhavan.



Justice Vijaya Kamlesh Tahilramani will have duties to hear public interest litigations relating to women's rights, all criminal appeals and criminal cases along with Justice M. Duraiswamy. Justice Tahilramani has experience of practicing in city civil and sessions courts and has acted as a Bombay High Court Judge.

14. SS Mundra was appointed as independent director of Indiabulls Housing Finance

Former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, Subhash Sheoratan Mundra was appointed as independent director on the board of the company, Indiabulls Housing Finance. He has been appointed to strengthen the company's corporate governance for a period of three years.



He has experience of working on boards of several multi-dimensional companies such as the Clearing Corporation of India Ltd (CCIL), Central Depository Services (India) Ltd. (CDSL), BOB Asset Management Company, National Payments Corporation of India Ltd., etc. Indiabulls Housing Finance Limited is a mortgage lender regulated by the National Housing Bank.

15. K S Srinivas selected as Chairman of Marine Products Export Development Authority

IAS officer K S Srinivas has been selected as Chairman of Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA). He has experience of working as Joint Secretary in Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare in Ministry of Agriculture.



Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) is a Government of India company headquartered at Kochi. MPEDA is given the mandate to promote the marine products industry with special reference to exports from the country. MPEDA is the nodal agency for the holistic development of seafood industry in India to realise its full export potential as a nodal agency.

16. U K Varma appointed ASSOCHAM Secretary General

ASSOCHAM has appointed former bureaucrat Uday Kumar Varma as its new Secretary General. He succeeds DS Rawat who held the position for nearly 14 years. Varma retired from the position of Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.



Varma has retired from the position of Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India. ASSOCHAM was established in 1920 by promoter Chambers, representing all regions of India.

17. Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy appointed Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman, DRDO

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Dr G. Satheesh Reddy, Distinguished Scientist and Scientific Adviser to Defence Minister (SA to RM) to the post of Secretary, Department of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D) and Chairman, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).



Dr Satheesh Reddy is well known for his significant contributions towards indigenous design, development, deployment of diversified Missiles & Strategic Systems, Guided Weapons, Avionics technologies. Dr Satheesh received several international and national awards which include the Homi J. Bhabha Memorial Gold Medal, National Aeronautical Prize and IEI-IEEE (USA) joint award.

18. Baby Rani Maurya took over as new governor of Uttarakhand

Baby Rani Maurya was sworn in as the new governor of Uttarakhand. The oath of office and secrecy was administered to Maurya by the acting Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court Rajiv Sharma. Maurya, a former mayor of Agra, was nominated as governor of Uttarakhand. She replaced Krishna Kant Paul whose five-year tenure ended recently.



The governor has ensured her commitment to the development of the state, women empowerment and protection of the girl child.

19. Ganga Prasad took over as new Governor of Sikkim

Ganga Prasad was sworn in as the new Governor of Sikkim. The oath of office and secrecy was administered to Mr Prasad by the Acting Chief Justice, Sikkim High Court, Justice Minakshi M Rai at Gangtok.



Mr. Ganga Prasad served as a Member of Legislative Council of Bihar and as the Leader of the Opposition (Bharatiya Janata Party) in the Bihar Legislative Council. He succeeded Mr Shrinivas Patil as the 16th Governor of Sikkim.

Awards

1. Mohun Bagan Ratna for former India defender Pradip Chowdhury

Mohun Bagan has conferred the club's highest honour, the Mohun Bagan Ratna, on former India international Pradip Chowdhury. Mohun Bagan goalkeeper Shilton Paul was presented the Best Footballer award for the year 2017-18.



Top-order batsman Sudip Chatterjee bagged the Best Cricketer of the year award. Sourav Das was given the Best Youth Footballer for the season 2017-18. Rahim Ali was conferred with a Special Award for his performance for the India U-17 team in the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017 and the 2017-18 I-League.

2. Gopalkrishna Gandhi presented with Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award

Former West Bengal governor Gopalkrishna Gandhi has been selected for Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award 2018 for promoting communal harmony and peace. The award carries a citation and cash amount of Rs. 10 lakh, is given on the occasion of the birthday of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi.



The award was instituted to commemorate the lasting contribution made by former PM Rajiv Gandhi to promote peace, communal harmony and fight against violence.

3. ONGC conferred with INFRA Icon Award in the 'Global Energy' category

ONGC, the 2nd largest E&P company in the world, has been conferred with INFRA Icon Award in the 'Global Energy' category at the mid-day INFRA Icons Awards 2018. ONGC has received the top corporate level award in recognition of its valuable contribution which has not only supported but also upgraded the country as a whole.



The "INFRA Icons", is an initiative by mid-day, designed to bring to the forefront the change makers and trend setters associated with the infrastructure of India. The award recognizes the exemplary performance in the corporate world and is felicitating the top companies across various sectors.

4. Indian-Origin Professor won Fields Medal, the "Nobel of Mathematics"

Indian-origin mathematician Akshay Venkatesh was awarded the prestigious Fields medal for his "profound contributions to an exceptionally broad range of subjects in mathematics". He was one of the four winners of the prize, which is commonly referred to as the Nobel prize for mathematics.



The other recipients were Caucher Birkar, Peter Scholze and Alessio Figalli. The Fields medal is awarded once in four years to the most promising mathematicians under the age of 40. The winners also receive a cash prize of \$15,000.

5. President awarded medals for Meritorious Service to Indian Coast Guard personnel

On the occasion of Independence Day 2018, the President of India has awarded one President's Tatrakshak Medal (PTM) (Distinguished Service), five Tatrakshak Medals (TM) (Gallantry) and two Tatrakshak Medals (TM) (Meritorious Service) to Indian Coast Guard personnel.

President's Tatrakshak Medal (Distinguished Service): IG Rakesh Pal, TM (0225-L)
Tatrakshak Medals (Meritorious Service)

- DIG Sanatan Jena (0289-E)
- Khetra Dolai, P/Adh(QA), 02297-W

Tatrakshak Medals (Gallantry)

- DIG Venurajan Anbarasan (0321-D)
- Comdt(JG) Touthang Ngamlien (0693-X)
- Dy Comdt Alexander Pradeep(0961-J)
- Amit Sanchan Kanojiya, U/Adh(QA), 04466-Z
- Neeraj Kumar, Nvk(QA), 13218-S

6. Gopalkrishna Gandhi conferred with Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award

Former West Bengal Governor Gopalkrishna Gandhi was conferred with Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award on the occasion of 74th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Gopalkrishna Gandhi has had a long and distinguished career in public life as a civil servant and a distinguished diplomat.



Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award is given in memory of Rajiv Gandhi who gave a new direction to the Indian economy and laid the foundation for India's entry into the 21st century with its focus on IT, telecommunications and computers.

7. S K Arora honored with WHO World No Tobacco Day 2017 award

Delhi's additional director of health, SK Arora was honored with World Health Organization (WHO) World No Tobacco Day 2017 award for his extraordinary contribution towards tobacco control. World Health Organization honours every year individuals or organisations alike in each of the six WHO regions for their support in the area of tobacco control.



SK Arora has immensely contributed in bringing down tobacco prevalence in Delhi by 6.5% in past 6 years. Government has also been putting efforts to control tobacco prevalence by National Health Policy 2017.

8. General Dalbir Singh Suhag honored with US 'Legion of Merit' 2018

Former Army Chief Gen Dalbir Singh of the Indian Army was honored with US 'Legion of Merit' 2018 (Degree of Commander), for his immense services as Army Chief. The Legion of Merit is a decoration of the United States of America and is awarded to foreign military personnel in four grades and to U.S. military personnel without distinction of degree.



Gen Dalbir Singh had always played great role in performing his duties such as counterterrorism operations, humanitarian assistance, counterinsurgency operations and disaster relief during the Nepal earthquake in 2015.

9. Directors Guild of America honored Ang Lee

The Directors Guild of America Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Motion Pictures is one of the annual awards given by Directors Guild of America. Famous director Ang Lee received honor for his legendary Taiwanese filmmaking. Some other great artists who received honors were Fox Searchlight chairman Nancy Utley, U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, SAG-AFTRA senior adviser John McGuire, and costume designer Ann Roth.



The Directors Guild of America Award honors individuals and institutions that have made immense contributions to American entertainment world through films and television.

10. Three U.S. scientists received 2018 Albany Medical Center Prize

Three visionary scientists James Allison, Carl June and Steven Rosenberg whose work has led to a revolutionary new way to treat cancer and other diseases, received 2018 Albany Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research. Their insights into the immune system and their work on immunotherapy have led to innovative new drugs for cancer, HIV and other diseases.



The Albany Med Prize is awarded to a physician, scientist or group, whose work has led to significant advances in health care and scientific research. The \$500,000 award is given annually since 2001 to recognize individuals in medical research.

11. Beckham "honoured" at UEFA President's Award

David Beckham received the 2018 UEFA President's Award from UEFA President Aleksander Čeferin at the UEFA Champions League group stage draw ceremony in Monaco. Beckham won six English Premier League titles. He won the UEFA Champions League in 1999 while playing for Manchester United.



Beckham made 115 appearances for England. He was named in the UEFA.com users' Team of the Year on two occasions, in 2001 and 2003. He played in three FIFA World Cups and two UEFA EUROs.

Books & Authors

1. Dr. Mahesh Sharma released 3 books

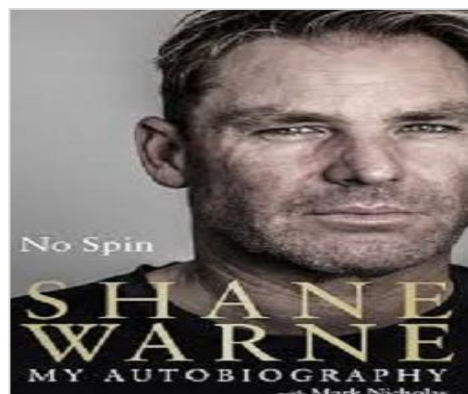
Minister of State for Culture (I/C), Dr. Mahesh Sharma, released 3 books 'Jewellery' by Dr. Gulab Kothari, 'Ghats of Banaras' by Dr. Sachidanand Joshi and 'Untold Story of Broadcasting' by Dr. Gautam Chatterjee at IGNCA, New Delhi.



The Book titled "Untold Story of Broadcasting" written by Dr. Gautam Chatterjee is about behind-the-scenes developments during the quit India movement. The Book "Ghats of Banaras" is derived out of the similar documentation conducted recently at Varanasi.

2. Shane Warne's Autobiography 'No Spin'

Australian spin legend Shane Warne is planning to launch his autobiography "No Spin" which will be published in October 2018. The book will talk about his extraordinary cricketing career and his life off the pitch.



The memoir is written with former cricketer and TV presenter Mark Nicholas. Warne played his first Test match in 1992, and took over 1,000 international wickets (in Tests and One-Day Internationals). He officially retired from all formats in 2013.

3. VVS Laxman to write his autobiography

Ace retired cricketer VVS Laxman is planning to write down his autobiography titled, "281 and Beyond". The title has been borrowed from the Hyderabad stylist's fabulous series-turning innings of 281 against Australia at the Eden Gardens in 2001.



Laxman played 134 Tests, amassing 8,781 runs and scored 17 centuries. He also played in 86 ODIs for an aggregate of 2338 runs. He announced his retirement from international cricket in 2012.

4. 9th edition of Mountain Echoes Literature Festival held in Thimphu

The ninth edition of Mountain Echoes Literature Festival was held in Thimphu, Bhutan. The four-day Literature Festival began with a tribute to former Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who was remembered at the annual event for his animated style of poetry recitations. It brings together writers, biographers, historians, environmentalists, scholars, poets, musicians, artists to engage in cultural dialogue, share stories and spend three days in the mountains.



Mountain Echoes literary festival is an initiative of the India Bhutan Foundation, in association with Siyahi.

Committees

1. Government constituted High Level Empowered Committee to address the issues of Stressed Thermal Power Projects

With a view to resolve the stress and revive Stressed Thermal Power Assets, the Government has decided to set up a High Level Empowered Committee headed by Cabinet Secretary.



The Committee would look into the various issues with a view to resolve them and maximise the efficiency of investment including changes required to be made in the provisioning norms/Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), Asset Restructuring Company (ARC) Regulations and any other measures proposed for revival of stressed assets so as to avoid such investments becoming NPA.

2. NGT constituted committee to monitor rejuvenation project of Ganga

National Green Tribunal constituted a panel under chairmanship of former Allahabad High Court judge to analyze rejuvenation project of Ganga from Haridwar to Unnao in Uttar Pradesh.



National Green Tribunal is an Act of the Parliament of India which enables creation of a special tribunal to handle the expeditious disposal of the cases pertaining to environmental issues. The tribunal shall consist of a full time chairperson, judicial members and expert members.

3. IRDAI constituted working group to review norms for insurance surveyors

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India constituted a working group to the norms for insurance surveyors. The 7-member working group has been formed to address areas pertaining to licensing, renewal and others in the context of the existing regulatory framework for Surveyors and Loss Assessors.



The group will study the Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association of the Indian Institute of Insurance Surveyors and Loss Assessors and make recommendations to bring about alignment with the Surveyor Regulations. The working group will make holistic analysis of the existing regulatory framework.

4. NGT formed committee on protection of natural conservation zones

A committee has been formed to look into whether sub regional plans for protection of Natural Conservation Zones were compatible with the regional plan prepared by the National Capital Region Planning Board. The committee is comprised of secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, secretary, Ministry of H&UA, chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, National Remote Sensing Centre, ISRO and secretaries of Urban Development Departments of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi.



The committee will submit report to the bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel, within one month. Ministry of Environment and Forests will act as nodal agency of the committee.

5. B Sesikeran committee formed to review food labelling standards

A committee to be headed by B Sesikeran has been formed by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India to review food labeling and display regulations - Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations 2018. It is a three member committee having group of experts from the health and nutrition sector. B Sesikeran is a former director of National Institute of Nutrition.



Food Safety and Standards Authority of India is an autonomous body established under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India to regulate import, export, distribution, sale of food and specify standards.

6. NGT appointed ex-judge Justice S J Vazifdar as chairman of panel to decide Vedanta's plea

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has appointed former Punjab and Haryana High Court Chief Justice S J Vazifdar as head of a three-member committee to decide mining company Vedanta's plea challenging closure of its Sterlite copper plant at Tuticorin.



The committee will also include representatives of the Central Pollution Control Board and the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The tribunal had asked the committee to assume work within two weeks and decide the matter within six weeks thereafter.

7. Committee on review of penal provisions of Company Act 2013 submitted final report

The committee on review of penal provisions of Company Act 2013 submitted its final report to Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Arun Jaitley.

The government constituted the committee to review the existing framework dealing with offences under the Companies Act, 2013 and related matters. It will also make recommendations to promote better corporate compliance. The committee has made several recommendations related to corporate compliance and corporate governance such as restructuring of Corporate Offences to relieve Special Courts from adjudicating routine offences.



Deaths

1. Veteran political leader and former Prime Minister of India Atal Bihari Vajpayee passed away

Veteran Political leader, prolific writer and former Prime Minister of India, Atal Bihari Vajpayee passed away at the age of 93. He was Prime Minister thrice in 1996 (13 days), 1998-1999 and 1999-2004 (making him first non-Congress leader to have completed full term as Prime Minister. He was amongst founder members of erstwhile Bharatiya Jana Sangh (and was its president in 1968 upon death of Deendayal Upadhyaya) which later became Bharatiya Janata Party.



He was a parliamentarian for over 47 years elected to Lok Sabha for 10 times (elected for first time in 1957 from Balrampur constituency in Uttar Pradesh) and 2 times to Rajya Sabha.

2. DMK Chief M Karunanidhi passed away

DMK Chief and former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M Karunanidhi passed away at the age of 94 years. He was popularly known as "Kalaingar" which literally translates to "artist". Karunanidhi first wrote for a film – Rajakumari – in 1947, while his last script titled 'Illaingar' came in 2010.



Karunanidhi became Tamil Nadu's CM in 1969 for the first time and had held the position in the state five times, with the last tenure being in 2006.

3. Eminent Bengali Writer Ramapada Chowdhury passed away

Eminent Bengali Writer Ramapada Chowdhury passed away at the age of 95 years. The Sahitya Academy awardee Bengali writer had authored famous novels like 'Kharij', 'Bari Badle Jay' and 'Abhimanyu'. Chowdhury's novel 'Abhimanyu' was based on the life and work of Dr. Subhas Mukhopadhyay who created India's first and the world's second test-tube baby in 1978.



Chowdhury had penned several famous literary works such as 'Pratham Prahar' (1954), 'Banpalashir Padabali' (1960), 'Ekhoi' (1969) and many more.

4. Australian professional golfer Jarrod Lyle died

Veteran Australian professional golfer Jarrod Lyle died at age of 36 due to cancer. He was a great player who won twice on the feeder Web.com tour in 2008 at the Mexican Open and the Knoxville Open. He played 121 US PGA Tour tournaments during his professional career.



He scored 4th position in 2012 Northern Trust Open. He was runner-up twice, in the Macau Open and the Brunei Open and at the 2006 ING New Zealand PGA Championship.

5. Asian Games gold medalist athlete Hakam Singh passed away

Asian Games gold medalist athlete Hakam Singh passed away at the age of 64 years. Singh won gold in 20 km race walk event during the 1978 ASIAD at Bangkok. He had also served as Havaldar in the 6 Sikh regiment.



Hakam had won gold at Asian track and field championship held at Tokyo in 1979. He was conferred the Dhyan Chand Award in 2008.

6. Former Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee passed away

Former Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee passed away at the age of 89 years. Chatterjee was the Speaker in the first five-year term (2004-2009) of the United Progressive Alliance government.



Chatterjee was elected to Parliament's Lower House for ten times since 1971. He won the Outstanding Parliamentarian award in 1994. It was during his term as the speaker of the 14th Lok Sabha, that DD Lok Sabha was replaced by Lok Sabha TV.

7. Chhattisgarh Governor Balram Das Tandon passed away

Chhattisgarh Governor Balramjidas Tandon passed away at the age of 91 years. He was a six time MLA. He was one of the founding members of the Jan Sangh which later became the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). He also served as the Deputy Chief Minister of Punjab.



Balramji das Tandon had assumed the office of Governor in Chhattisgarh on July, 2014. He was recently in news in June when he decided not to accept the raise in salary.

8. Nobel Prize winning author V.S. Naipaul passed away

Nobel Prize winning author V.S. Naipaul passed away at the age of 85 years. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2001. He won the Booker prize in 1971 and a knighthood in 1989.

Naipaul's first published novel was "The Mystic Masseur". In 1959, he won the Somerset Maugham Award with the story collection "Miguel Street." "The Mimic Men" won the W.H. Smith Award in 1967.



9. Former UN secretary-general Kofi Annan passed away

Former UN secretary-general Kofi Annan died in Switzerland. He was 80. He was the first black African to become UN secretary-general. Mr. Annan served two terms as UN Chief from 1997 to 2006. He later served as the UN special envoy for Syria, leading efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2001 for helping to revitalise the international body, during a period that coincided with the Iraq War and the HIV/Aids pandemic.



10. US singer Aretha Franklin died at 76

US singer Aretha Franklin has died at the age of 76. She received the Grammy Award 18 times and was the first female vocalist to be inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

Aretha's style on hits such as "Respect" and "Natural Woman" attracted fans all over the world and influenced Whitney Houston, Mariah Carey and other pop divas. Franklin performed at the inaugurations of three US Presidents -- Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama.



11. Israeli Journalist Uri Avnery died

Veteran Israeli journalist and peace activist Uri Avnery died at the age of 94. He was peace-making and known as a symbol of the Israeli peace camp. He worked as a publisher, parliament member, author and activist. He worked as an activist in advocating for a Palestinian state and 1982 Lebanon War.



Uri Avnery, as a journalist always published and favoured that Palestinian state was the only way to secure peace for a democratic Israel with a Jewish majority.

12. Veteran journalist Kuldip Nayar passed away

Veteran journalist and former Rajya Sabha member Kuldip Nayar passed away at the age of 95 years. Nayar began his career with an Urdu newspaper called Anjam.



Nayar, a former editor of The Indian Express, was also the author of 15 books including "Beyond the Lines", "India after Nehru" and "Emergency Retold". He was honoured with 'Lifetime Achievement Award' for his contribution to journalism at the eighth edition of the Ramnath Goenka Excellence awards in 2015.

13. US Senator John McCain died at 81

US senator John McCain, a celebrated Vietnam war hero, died after losing a battle to brain cancer. He was 81. The six-term senator, McCain was also a Republican presidential nominee in 2008. McCain had been battling glioblastoma, an aggressive form of brain cancer discovered in July 2017.



A fighter pilot during the Vietnam War, he spent more than five years as a prisoner of war after his plane was shot down. While in the custody he suffered torture that left him with lasting disabilities.

14. Former India captain Ajit Wadekar passed away

Former India cricket captain Ajit Wadekar passed away. He was a leader in Indian cricket despite a mere 37 Test appearances, leading India to triumphs in England and the West Indies in 1971.



Wadekar scored 2,113 runs in his Test career, including one hundred, and was also the country's first ODI captain. The left-hander ended his Test career with 14 half centuries, four of those being 90-plus scores. The Mumbaier went on to serve as India's manager in the '90s during Mohammed Azharuddin's captaincy. He was bestowed the Arjuna Award in 1967 and Padmashri in 1972.

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