

NICL GK Capsule Part -2

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NATIONAL NEWS

1. The **Union government** has fetched about **1.10 lakh crore** rupees after the auctioning of a **telecom spectrum**.
2. **Union Government has approved 10** Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposals worth **2857.83 crore rupees**. These FDI proposals were approved by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB)
3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched **Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation (PRAGATI) platform**. PRAGATI is a multi-purpose and multi-modal platform aimed at addressing grievances of common man.
4. Union Ministry of Railways has constituted a Committee to review the existing **Public Private Partnership (PPP) Cell** in the Railway Board with former IAS officer **Ajay Shankar** as its head.
5. First goods train from **Lumding to Silchar** in the northeastern state of Assam was flagged off by the Union Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu through video conferencing at a function in New Delhi.
6. Delhi government has launched **First E-ration card** service in India. It was launched Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.
7. Rajasthan government has passed **Rajasthan Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2015** in state assembly.
8. Rajasthan Government passed the **Rajasthan Camel (Prohibition of Slaughter and Regulation of Temporary Migration or Export) Bill, 2015**. It was passed in state legislative assembly by a voice vote.
9. Union Government gave its approval to build crore strategic project of next-generation **Airborne Warning and Control Systems (AWACS)**.
10. **Nine organic and exotic agricultural products** from Northeast India were accorded **geographical indication (GI) registration tag**.
11. **Andhra Pradesh government**, National University of Singapore (NUS) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have signed MoU to work on Ease of Doing Business in the state.
12. **Delhi Government** banned the sale, purchase, storage and manufacturing of all **forms of chewable tobacco including guktha and pan masala containing tobacco**.
13. Vice **Admiral Surinder Pal Singh Cheema** took over the reins of the Western Naval Command as Flag Officer Commanding-in-chief.
14. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) the corporate entity of Vizag Steel Plant (VSP) launched novel green project that can **generate 120 MW power**.
15. The Gujarat Legislative Assembly passed **Gujarat Control of Terrorism and Organized Crime (GUJCOC) Bill, 2015**.
16. Union Government formally launched the 'Give It Up' movement in Karnataka. It was launched by Union Minister of State (MoS) for Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradan
17. 88th Akhil Bhartiya Marathi Sahitya Sammelan (**All India Marathi Sahitya Sammelan**) on began in Ghumaan village in Gurdaspur district of Punjab.
18. Union Government again has extended rolling out deadline for **National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013** by six months. It was announced by Union Food Minister Ram Vilas Paswan in order to give more time to states to roll out NFSA. The extension will help remaining states adopt and implement the law within next six months.
19. Union Government has unveiled new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) to make India an exporting powerhouse in the next five years.
20. **Mariyam Asif Siddiqui**, a 12-year-old Muslim girl from Mumbai has secured first place Shrimad Bhagwad Gita Champion League.

21. India's first Polar Remotely Operated Vehicle (PROVe) was successfully operationalised for research in North Antarctica by National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT).
22. Andhra Pradesh government has **approved Amaravathi** as name of the **new capital city** of the state coming up in the Vijayawada-Guntur region.
23. Union Government launched **Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric vehicles (FAME) – India Scheme**. The scheme was launched as part of the National Mission for Electric Mobility to boost eco-friendly vehicles sales in the country.
24. Punjab Government has launched 'Padho Punjab- Khedo Punjab Mission' i.e. Learn Punjab- Play Punjab Mission. It is a special mission launched to provide school students a separate period in the curriculum for playing along with studies.

BANKING AND BUSINESS NEWS

1. The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has signed a **US \$400 million currency swap agreement** with the **Central Bank of Sri Lanka**. The currency swap agreement will allow central banks of both nations to make withdrawals of US Dollar or Euro in multiple tranches up to a maximum of USD 400 million or its equivalent.
2. **India and Qatar** have signed **six pacts** including agreements and Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) to increase commercial and economic exchanges between both nations.
3. **Andhra Pradesh government, National University of Singapore (NUS) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** have **signed MoU** to work on **Ease of Doing Business in the state**.
4. **Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)** the corporate entity of Vizag Steel Plant (VSP) on 31 March 2015 launched novel green project that can generate 120 MW power.
5. **Captain Anoop Kumar Sharma** has taken over as whole-time director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Essar Shipping Ltd (ESL).
6. In recently released 2015 FM **Global Resilience Index**, **India** has been **ranked a low 119** out of 130 countries. India despite having scope and global potential was ranked 119 compared to 112th rank in 2014 Global Resilience Index.
7. **Top 10 Countries 2015 FM Global Resilience Index –**

Rank	Country
1	Norway
2	Switzerland
3	Netherlands
4	Netherlands
5	Luxembourg
6	Germany
7	Qatar
8	Canada
9	Finland
10	United States

8. Bottom 4 countries- Dominican Republic (126), Nicaragua (127) Kyrgyz Republic (129) and Venezuela (130).
9. **Tata Communications Ltd** (formerly VSNL) has partnered with **Indonesian firm Indosat** to provide a wide range of technology and communication solutions for enterprises in Indonesia and to make inroads into that region.

10. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced sixth Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy Statement on 7th April, 2014. The Rates Remained Unchanged in this Policy statement.

Repo Rate	7.75%
Reverse Repo Rate	6.75%
Cash Reserve Ratio	4%
Bank Rate	8.75%
Marginal Standing Facility Ratio	8.75%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio	21.5%

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. Recently released **Country Threat Index (CTI)** by US-based intelligence think tank- **Intel Center** has placed **Pakistan eighth** in the list of the most dangerous countries in the world as of March 2015. **Top 10 Most Dangerous Countries** in the world are:

Country	Points	Rank
Iraq	811	1
Syria	717	2
Nigeria	272	3
Somalia	257	4
Afghanistan	186	5
Libya	157	6
Yemen	132	7
Pakistan	122	8
Ukraine	103	9
Egypt	74	10

Pakistan and Afghanistan are the only two South Asian countries in the list.

- Former military ruler Genral **Muhammadu Buhari** won the **Presidential election** in **Nigeria**. He defeated incumbent President Goodluck Jonathan by more than two million votes.
- Bangladesh** has won the **prestigious Women in Parliaments (WIP) Award for regional leadership** in the South and Southeast Asia category for closing the gender gap in politics.
- Saudi Arabia along with **Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)** and several other countries have started military operations against Houthi rebels in Yemen.

SPORTS NEWS

- Two-year-old girl Cherukuli Dolly Shivani** from **Vijaywada**, Andhra Pradesh has created new record in **Archery** and has entered her name into the India Book of Records.
- Ace shuttler **Saina Nehwal** has created history by **becoming first Indian woman to be ranked number one in the world in Badminton World Federation (BWF) rankings** in Women's Singles category.
- Australia has won the ICC Cricket World Cup 2015 for the record fifth time. In the final match Australia defeated co-hosts of the tournament, New Zealand by 7 wickets played at the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), Australia.

4. Australian cricketer Michael Clarke has announced his retirement from One Day Internationals (ODI) cricket format.
5. Ace shuttler Saina Nehwal has won India Open Super Series Badminton Women's Singles 2015 Title.
6. India's **Srikanth Kidambi** has won India Open Super Series Badminton Men's Singles 2015 Title. In the final match he defeated Denmark's Viktor Axelsen in three games 18-21, 21-13 and 21-12.
7. New Zealand cricketer and former captain **Daniel Vettori** has announced his retirement from international cricket.
8. World No. 1 and Serbian ace tennis player **Novak Djokovic** has won the **2015 Miami Open Men's Singles Title**. In the final match he defeated Britain's Andy Murray by 7-6 (7-3) 4-6 6-0 score.
9. World No. 1 and American ace tennis player **Serena Williams** has won the **2015 Miami Open Women's singles Title**. In the final match she defeated Spain's Carla Suárez Navarro by 6-2, 6-0 score.
10. India's **Sania Mirza** and Switzerland's **Martina Hingis** pair has won **2015 Miami Open Women's doubles Title**. In the final match they defeated Russian pair of Ekaterina Makarova and Elena Vesnina by 7-5, 6-1 score.
11. A **Minor planet** was named after India's chess legend and first **grandmaster Vishwanathan Anand** by the **Minor Planet Center**. His name was given to the minor planet which was previously identified as planet 4538. Now the planet will be called as **4538 Vishyanand** and is located somewhere between the Mars and Jupiter.

SCHEMES AND POLICIES

1. **Union Government** has unveiled new **Foreign Trade Policy (FTP)** to make India an exporting powerhouse in the next five years. The new trade policy will incorporate government ambitious initiatives such as Make in India, Digital India mission, Skill India programme, ease of business in order to boost jobs and take India's exports to 900 billion dollars by 2020.
2. **Odisha Government** has launched 'Aahar'- **cheap meal scheme** for providing subsidized food to urban poor.
3. **Union Government** has launched **Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric vehicles (FAME)** – India Scheme. The scheme was launched as part of the National Mission for **Electric Mobility to boost eco-friendly vehicles** sales in the country.
4. **Punjab Government** has launched 'Padho Punjab- Khedo Punjab Mission' i.e. Learn Punjab- Play Punjab Mission. It is a special mission launched to provide school students a separate period in the curriculum for playing along with studies.

AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. **Bangladesh** has won the **prestigious Women in Parliaments (WIP)** Award for regional leadership in the South and Southeast Asia category for **closing the gender gap in politics**.
2. **Ruth Porat** has been appointed as **Chief Financial Officer (CFO)** of world's largest search engine giant Google.
3. Indian-American **novelist Akhil Sharma's** novel Family Life has won the **prestigious Folio Prize 2015**.

4. **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has been selected for the **Gandhi Peace Prize** for the year 2014.
5. **President Pranab Mukherjee** has conferred country's highest civilian award **Bharat Ratna** to former **Prime Minister (PM) Atal Bihari Vajpayee**.
6. Indian-American scientist and biology professor **Murty Kambhampati** is chosen for **prestigious US Presidential award**.
7. **Aditi Arya** from New Delhi has won the **Femina Miss India 2015 crown** at the **52nd edition** of the beauty pageant.
8. Acclaimed filmmaker **Adoor Gopalakrishnan** was honoured with Bishwaratna Dr. Bhupen Hazarika International Solidarity Award.
9. **Katsushi Inoue** on 30 March 2015 was appointed as **President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of **Honda Cars India Ltd (HCIL)**.
10. Eminent freedom fighter and educationist **Madan Mohan Malviya** was conferred with **Bharat Ratna** (posthumously), **highest civilian award of the country**.
11. Vice Admiral **Surinder Pal Singh Cheema** has taken over the reins of the **Western Naval Command** as Flag Officer Commanding-in-chief.
12. West Bengal and Bihar **Governor Keshari Nath Tripathi** took **additional charge of Mizoram**. He was sworn in as **16th Governor of Mizoram**.
13. **Pedro Cateriano Bellido** was appointed as **Prime Minister of Peru** by the President Ollanta Humala.
14. Captain **Anoop Kumar Sharma** has taken over as whole-time director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Essar Shipping Ltd (ESL).
15. **Mariyam Asif Siddiqui**, a **12-year-old Muslim girl** from Mumbai has secured **first place Shrimad Bhagwad Gita Champion League**.
16. **Gulshan Rai** took charge as India's **first cyber security chief** under the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) as Special Secretary for cyber security.
17. Former military ruler **Genral Muhammadu Buhari** won the Presidential election in **Nigeria**. He defeated incumbent President Goodluck Jonathan by more than two million votes.
18. Veteran hockey player **Balbir Singh Senior** was awarded Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award by Hockey India.

ENVIRONMENT RELATED IMPORTANT NEWS

1. As per the latest census, the Great Indian **one-horned Rhinoceros** population in Assam's **Kaziranga National Park (KNP)** – world heritage site has increased to over 2401.
2. Ninth edition of **Earth Hour** was observed on 28 March 2015 across the World. **Earth Hour 2015** encouraged people to explore and adopt a cleaner and more sustainable lifestyle by embracing renewable energy solutions.
3. **Nine organic and exotic agricultural products** from Northeast India were accorded geographical indication (GI) registration tag. GI tag will help to protect these exclusive special local crops and pave way for better branding and marketing of these products both in domestic and international Market.
4. Researchers have discovered **rare huntsman and jumping spider** in the **Western Ghats** belong to the Sparassidae and Salticidae families. They were discovered by the research team of arachnologists led by Dr. P.A. Sebastian, Director of the Division of Arachnology in Sacred Heart College, Kochi in Kerala.

5. **Rajasthan Government** has passed the Rajasthan Camel (Prohibition of Slaughter and Regulation of Temporary Migration or Export) Bill, 2015. It was passed in state legislative assembly by a voice vote.
6. Ninth edition of **Earth Hour** was observed on 28th March, 2015 across the World. Earth Hour 2015 encouraged people to explore and adopt a cleaner and more sustainable lifestyle by embracing renewable energy solutions.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. **NASA's Curiosity** rover for first time has found evidence of nitrogen in the form of nitrate in aeolian deposits and in two mudstone deposits on Mars.
2. **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** has successfully launched fourth navigation satellite Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS)-1D.

India's first **Polar Remotely Operated Vehicle (PROVe)** was successfully operationalised for research in North Antarctica by National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT).

RETIREMENT AND OBITUARIES

1. Former Chief Minister (CM) of Mizoram **Brigadier (Retd) Thenphunga Sailo** passed away on 27 March 2015 in Aizawl, Mizoram. Apart from being CM, he was also one of the prominent voices against the human rights violation by the armed forces' in 1970s in the insurgency-hit Mizo hills.
2. Australian cricketer **Michael Clarke** has announced his retirement from One Day Internationals (ODI) cricket format.
3. New Zealand cricketer and former captain **Daniel Vettori** has announced his retirement from international cricket.
4. **Malli Mastan Babu**, one of **India's top mountaineers** passed away. His dead body was recovered in the Andes Mountains between Argentina and Chile after he went missing on 24th March, 2015 during an expedition to Cerro Tres Cruces Sur.
5. **Kailash Vajpeyi**, renowned Hindi poet passed away in New Delhi due to cardiac arrest.
6. **Sunita Tomar**, poster girl of India's **anti-tobacco campaign** passed away at her hometown in Bhind district of Madhya Pradesh. She was 28 and was diagnosed with oral cancer.
7. New Zealand cricketer **Kyle Mills** on 1 April 2014 announced retirement from international cricket.

LIST OF INDIAN STATES, THEIR CAPITAL AND CHIEF MINISTER

State	Capital	Chief Minister
Andhra Pradesh	Amravati	N.Chandrababu Naidu
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Nabam Tuki
Asom	Dispur	Tarun Gagoi
Bihar	Patna	Nitish Kumar
Chhattisgarh	Raipur	Raman Singh
Goa	Panaji	Laxmikant Parsekar
Gujarat	Gandhinagar	Anandi Ben Patel
Haryana	Chandigarh	Manohar Lal Khattar
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Virbhadra Singh
Jammu-Kashmir	Jammu(Winters) Srinagar(Summers)	Mufti Mohammad Sayeed
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Raghuvar Das
Karnataka	Bangaluru	K.Siddharamaiah
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Ooman Chandy
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Shivraj Singh Chauhan
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Devendra Fadnavis
Manipur	Imphal	Okram Ibobi Singh
Meghalaya	Shillong	Mukul Sangma
Mizoram	Aizawl	P.Laltanhawla
Nagaland	Kohima	TR Zeliang
Odisha	Bhubneswar	Naveen Patnaik
Punjab	Chandigarh	Prakash Singh Badal
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Vasundhara Raje
Sikkim	Gangtok	Pawan Chamling
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	O.Panneerselvam
Tripura	Agartala	Manik Sarkar
Uttar Pradesh	Patna	Akhilesh Yadav
Uttrakhand	Dehradun	Harish Rawat
West Bengal	Kolkata	Mamata Banerjee
Telangana	Hyderabad	K.Chandrashekhara Rao

LIST OF FOLK AND CLASSICAL DANCES

State	Dances
Andhra Pradesh	Kuchipudi
Arunachal Pradesh	Bardo Chham, Mask Dance
Asom	Bihu Dance,Sattriya
Bihar	Jat-Jatin,
Chhattisgarh	Gaudi,Karma
Goa	Mandi
Gujarat	Garba
Haryana	Saang
Himachal Pradesh	Dhaman,Daf, Jhora-Jhali
Jammu-Kashmir	Rauf
Jharkhand	Chhau,Sarahul
Karnataka	Bharatnatyam
Kerala	Kathakali
Madhya Pradesh	Gaur maria Dance,Tertali
Maharashtra	Lavni ,Koli
Manipur	Thang Ta
Meghalaya	
Mizoram	Khanatm
Nagaland	Chang Lo ,Sua lua
Odisha	Odissi
Punjab	Bhangra
Rajasthan	Ghoomer
Sikkim	Singhi Chham
Tamil Nadu	Bharatnatyam
Tripura	Hojagiri
Uttar Pradesh	Kathak,Nautanki, Rasleela
Uttrakhand	
West Bengal	Kathi
Telangana	Kuchipudi ,Kolattam

SOME IMPORTANT BANKING TERMS

Asset turnover ratio - This ratio can be explained as Net assets / Total turnover or sales. This ratio measures the operational efficiency of business assets. In simple terms this measures how many time total assets turned in a year and how efficiently the assets are used in a business.

Amortization - It is an accounting technique by which intangible assets are written off over a period of time. For example provision for doubtful debts or preliminary expenses are written off over a certain period of time.

Audit - Financial statement and physical stock is checked annually by professional auditor (Chartered Accountant affiliated by ICAI in India)

Capital gain - Gain by selling a capital asset in which a person is not doing business. Income by selling a house by a bank employee is a capital gain whereas when a builder do the same thing it is Income from business and professional.

Current asset - An asset that can be converted into cash with 12 months. For example - debtors, stock etc.

Credit rating - A ranking applied to an individual, business or a nation based upon its credit history and current financial position. There are various credit rating companies in India such as Crisil.

CPI - Consumer price index is measure to find price of a bundle of commodities. CPI is used to measure the inflation in a country.

Depreciation - Depreciation is reduction in value of an asset due wear and tear over a period of time. For example a company purchased a machine in 2005 and planned to charge 20% depreciation. In 2010 the machine will be written off from the books of account.

Dividend - Dividend is the amount per share paid by a company to its shareholders. Dividend value is based upon company's profitability

GDP - Gross domestic product is the aggregate value of goods and services produced by every person of a nation.

GST - Goods and services tax is the same tax system for everything. It is proposed that GST will replace the multi tax system in India by 2015.

IPO - Initial public offer is issue of stocks for the first time in the market.

Intangible assets – Assets which can't be seen but have value for business. For example – Goodwill.

Indemnity – A legal contract under which one party promises to pay another for any losses incurred to them by their acts.

Interest rate risk – Risk that value of financial assets will deteriorate because of fall in interest rate. For example value of bonds decreases with decrease in interest rate.

Junk fund – A fund which invests investor's money in junk investments means high risk investments which high returns.

Monopoly - A situation in market where there are many buyers but a single seller exist.

Money market - Market dealing in short term lending and borrowing of funds. Also know as Cash market.

Monetary policy - Set of actions by Central bank of a country (RBI in case of India) to control the supply of money. These actions included increase in interest rate, open market purchases,

changing commercial bank's reserve funds ratio (SLR) etc.

Marginal cost - Additional cost to produce an extra unit of product.

Margin - Amount of profit added to cost price of each unit of a product

Margin call - Margin call term is used in two situations. **First** - Whenever a lender gives a secured loan and loan value is a fixed percentage of loan then whenever the value of security decrease below the decided ratio then lender given a margin call to borrower to bring loan to security ratio to decided level. **Secondly** in stock exchanges traders trades in various securities by paying 20-30% of the value of securities. Whenever the value of security goes below that margin, broker gives margin call to trader to bring the margin to desired level.

Mark-to-market - As explained above while defining margin call, value of assets in case of securities is measured on daily basis. If the trader's asset value increased, increased value is transferred to his account. In case the value of assets decreased margin call is made to adjust the margin.

ROI - Rate on investment is return divided by value of investment

Redemption - Maturity date of a security or a bond

Recession - An economic situation of negative growth

Repo rate - Rate at which Central bank (RBI in case of India) lends money to commercial banks

Reverse repo rate - Rate at which commercial banks lends to central bank

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