

## **17 January 2019 Current Affairs**

### **Petr Cech announces retirement from professional football**

Arsenal goalkeeper Petr Cech (from Czech Republic) announced that he would be retiring from professional football at the end of the current season. The 36-year-old, who had signed his first professional contract 20 years ago, was of the view that it was the right time to retire.

### **Palestine Takes Reins at UN's Group G77**

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has pledged to protect the interests of all 134 countries in the UN's Group of 77, as Palestine took the chairmanship of the group from Egypt for 2019.

### **Gandhi Peace Prize Conferred for Last 4 Years**

The Gandhi Peace Prize for the years 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 has been conferred. The Gandhi Peace Prize conferred to Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari in 2015, Akshaya Patra Foundation in 2016, Ekal Abhiyan Trust in 2017 & Shri Yohei Sasakawa in 2018.

### **Cabinet approves Rs 6,000 recap of EXIM Bank**

The Union Cabinet approved capital infusion of Rs 6,000 crore in Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) through recapitalisation bonds to boost the bank's capacity in export financing.

### **India's Satyarup becomes World's Youngest Mountaineer to Climb 7 Peaks, 7 Volcano Summits**

Mountaineer Satyarup Siddhanta conquered Antarctica's highest point, Mount Sidley. With this feat, he became the first Indian and youngest man to climb the 7 highest peaks and volcanic summits across all continents.

### **Mukesh Ambani in top Global Thinkers List of Foreign Policy**

Chairman and Managing Director of Reliance Industries, Mukesh Ambani who is also the Richest Indian, has been featured in the Top 'Global Thinkers 2019' ranking released by the prestigious Foreign Policy publishing. Alibaba's founder Jack Ma, Amazon's CEO Jeff Bezos and IMF Head Christine Lagarde also featured in the list of few names released by Foreign Policy Publishing.

### **Assam Accord signatory Biraj Sarma passes away**

Senior AGP leader and one of the signatories of the Assam Accord, Biraj Kumar Sarma, has passed away after suffering from chronic liver disease. Sarma along with former Assam Chief Minister Prafulla Kumar Mahanta and the late Bhrigu Kumar Phukan signed the Assam Accord, marking the end of the six-year-long Assam movement against 'foreigners'.

### **India born, Dr. Rattan Lal honoured with 2019 Japan Prize**

Two scientists are being recognized with the 2019 Japan Prize for original and outstanding achievements that not only contribute to the advancement of science and technology, but also promote peace and prosperity for all mankind.