

Current Affairs: January 18, 2025

National News

India's Digital Leap: NBM 2.0 & Sanchar Saathi App



- On January 17, 2025, the Department of Telecommunications launched NBM 2.0, an extension of NBM 1.0, aiming to connect rural areas with high-speed broadband. The initiative targets reaching 1.7 lakh villages and providing broadband at 100 Mbps.

Govt Launches App for Battlefield Tourism



- The "Bharat Ranbhoomi Darshan" app, launched on January 15, 2025, allows civilians to visit historic battlefield sites, including those from the 1962, 1971, and 1999 wars, enhancing public engagement with India's military history.

Lokpal of India Celebrates First Foundation Day



- The Lokpal celebrated its first Foundation Day on January 16, 2025, marking its establishment under the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013.

International News

China Launches Pakistan's Satellite



- On January 17, 2025, China launched Pakistan's Electro-Optical (EO-1) satellite, the first of its kind, into space. It aims to monitor Earth with electro-optical sensors.

Economy News

India's FY25 Growth Forecast Cut to 6.5% by IMF



- The IMF revised India's growth forecast for FY25 to 6.5%, citing global economic uncertainties, inflation, and investment slowdowns.

Banking News

RBI Allows Overseas Banks to Open INR Accounts



- The RBI authorized overseas branches to open Indian Rupee (INR) accounts for non-residents to enhance the rupee's global usage.

Sports News

Djokovic Breaks Federer's Record for Grand Slam Matches



- Novak Djokovic broke Roger Federer's record for most Grand Slam matches played on January 17, 2025, with his 430th Grand Slam match victory at the Australian Open.

Science & Technology News

Blue Origin Launches New Glenn Rocket



- Blue Origin successfully launched the New Glenn rocket on its maiden flight, marking a significant achievement for space exploration.

ISRO Germinates First Black-eyed Pea in Space



- ISRO achieved a milestone in space agriculture by germinating black-eyed pea seeds aboard the Compact Research Module for Orbital Plant Studies (CROPS).