18th & 19th February 2018 Current Affairs

1.The World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT), a global IT summit, and the 26th edition of Nasscom India Leadership Forum began in Hyderabad.

2.India has contributed immensely and progressed by initiating reforms in the health sector through Digital India Program, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare J P Nadda addressed this in the Global Digital Health Partnership Summit in Australia.

3.The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) announced area development plans worth Rs.1,918 crore for Punjab to supplement farmers' income.

4.Amazon has rolled out its own food retailing business in India with a pilot in Pune, becoming the first foreign e-commerce firm to stock and sell food items directly to consumers.

5.Fiji signed a declaration of partnership with India's The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) for assistance in tackling climate change effects and achieving environmental sustainability.

6.Former Professor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Vinod Kumar Jain has been appointed as the new Vice-Chancellor of Tezpur University.

7.Shoaib Akhtar has been appointed as Pakistan Cricket Board's brand ambassador and advisor to the chairman on cricket affairs.

8.Vice Admiral RB Pandit, has taken over as the Commandant of Indian Naval Academy (INA).

9.Former President Pranab Mukherjee will be conferred an honorary D.Litt by the Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IIEST).

10.Jordan Thompson of Australia has won the Chennai Open ATP Challenger in Chennai.

11.The Virgin Group has signed an "intent agreement" with Maharashtra to build a hyperloop transportation system between Mumbai and Pune.

12.Union Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said that an international educational institution for minorities will be built in Rajasthan's Alwar city.

13.Singapore will impose a carbon tax from next year to cut its greenhouse gas emissions and make companies more competitive as global agreements on climate change take effect.

14.French jazz violinist Didier Lockwood has passed away.

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