

## CURRENT AFFAIRS= 17-04-2019

### **2nd Edition of Indo-Vietnam Bilateral Exercise 'IN – VPN BILAT EX' concludes**

The Indian Navy held the 2nd edition of the bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and Vietnam Peoples' Navy, (IN – VPN BILAT EX) at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam during 13th to 16th April, 2019.



### **Indian Navy coastal defence exercise: "Sea Vigil" chaired by Vice Admiral MS Pawar conducted on 16th April 2019 at Naval headquarters**

Sea Vigil became the very 1st national-level coastal defence exercise conducted by the Indian Navy. In this exercise, it involved naval stakeholders at the centre and all 13 coastal states and union territories. Exercise Sea Vigil's prime objective is to safeguard India's 7516.6 km coastline and its exclusive economic zone

### **A quasi-cryptocurrency called as "Learning Coin," launched by The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF)**

Two international financial institutions the **World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF)** have launched a private blockchain and quasi-crypto currency called as "**Learning Coin**" for better understanding of blockchain technology and the function of crypto assets.

### **Fincare Small Finance Bank Awarded the Celent Model Bank 2019 Award**

Fincare Small Finance Bank (SFB) has been awarded the prestigious Celent Model Bank 2019 Award in the category of Financial Inclusion, for 'Redesigning Lending to Reach Small Businesses'.

### **Miscellaneous News**

1. The Second Phase of Lok Sabha Elections 2019 will be held on April 18, 2019 in 97 Lok Sabha Constituencies across 12 States and 1 Union Territory. The voting for Lok Sabha Elections 2019 Phase II will be held for some parliamentary constituencies of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.
2. The Election Commission of India has cancelled polling Tamil Nadu's Vellore constituency on the grounds of misuse of money. The South Indian state will go to polls for 38 out of the total 39 Lok Sabha seats on April 18, 2019, during the second phase of polls. Vellore polls have been rescinded following reports of the large-scale illegal flow of cash.
3. The Notre-Dame Cathedral in central Paris, France almost burned down in a devastating fire that began on April 15, 2019. The fire completely destroyed the spire of the iconic structure and two-thirds of its largely medieval roof. UNESCO experts have agreed to help in rebuilding the structure.
4. Google on April 16, 2019 blocked the access to highly popular Chinese video app 'TikTok' on its play store following the refusal of the Madras High Court to lift the ban imposed on the app on April 3, 2019. The app is now not available for download from Google playstore.