

May – 07

NATIONAL

Framework for National Policy on E-commerce

- ❖ India will come out with a framework for a national policy on e-commerce to deal with issues including competition, regulation, data privacy, taxation and technical aspects such as technology transfer.
- ❖ The government decided on to set up a task force to finalise the contours of a policy for the e-commerce sector.
- ❖ The decision to set up a task force was taken during the first meeting of the think-tank on the framework for a National Policy on E-Commerce.
- ❖ The think-tank is chaired by commerce and industry minister Suresh Prabhu.

Varuna 2018 naval exercise

- ❖ The Indian and French navies conducted the third and final phase of the Varuna naval exercise in the Reunion Island.
- ❖ Varuna is the bilateral naval exercise between India and France.



- ❖ The Reunion island is a French administrative territory in the India Ocean.
- ❖ In total Varuna 2018 exercise is conducted in three phases. The three phases are conducted in Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal and South Western Indian Ocean.

- ❖ The Indian Navy and the French Navy have conducted bilateral maritime exercises since May 1993.
- ❖ Since 2001, this Indo-French Bilateral exercises have been named as Varuna and there have been fifteen editions of the same till date.

India's First Woman Firefighter

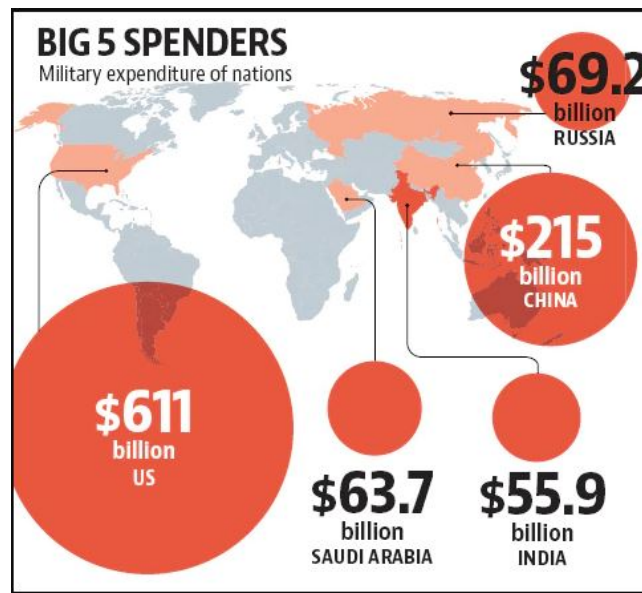
- ❖ Taniya Sanyal from Kolkata has become the first woman fire fighter in India.
- ❖ She became the first women firefighter at the Airport's Authority of India (AAI)
- ❖ She will be working as Junior Assistant in the fire service.



INTERNATIONAL

World's Top five defense spenders

- ❖ The report was given by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has released a report with the list of countries who spends more on their defense.
- ❖ India entered the club of the world's five biggest military spenders in 2017 who spent more on military.
- ❖ The government enhanced the operational capability of its armed forces in the face of tensions with China and Pakistan.
- ❖ India was in the fifth spot, after the US, China, Saudi Arabia and Russia.



6th Indian Ocean Naval Symposium

- ❖ The 6th Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) was held at Iranian capital Tehran on April 22-25, 2018.
- ❖ In addition to the IONS member states, some countries like the Caspian Sea littoral states also took part in this event.
- ❖ During the international event, the Iranian Navy took over the presidency of the IONS for two years.
- ❖ The IONS is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region by providing an open and inclusive forum for discussion of regionally relevant maritime issues.

Female Foreign Ministers Meeting

- ❖ Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland said that Canada and the European Union will host the world's first female foreign ministers' meeting in September, 2018.
- ❖ The Canadian government said that female foreign ministers from about 30 countries will be invited to the gathering, which is aimed at deepening global discussion on women's empowerment.

STATES

Go to Village Mission-Manipur

- ❖ Manipur chief minister N. Biren Singh launched the "Go to Village" mission at Komlakhong gram panchayat in Imphal West district, Manipur.
- ❖ The mission was launched throughout Manipur in 60 villages of all the 60 Assembly constituencies.
- ❖ Tuesday has been slotted as a day to visit different villages located in this district to ensure physical involvement of government officials to identify and reach out to the deserving beneficiaries.
- ❖ Under the new mission, the government would identify eligible and deserving beneficiaries and would deliver government services at their doorstep.

Best Gram Panchayat – Digambarpur

- ❖ Digambarpur, a Gram Panchayat about 100 km away from Kolkata has been selected as the best Gram Panchayat in the country by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- ❖ This Digambarpur gram panchayatis located in South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal.
- ❖ The village has a cooperative called the Digambarpur Sarada Sangh Prathamik Bahumukhi Samabay Samity Ltd, which operates and provides market opportunity to the Self Help Groups-run projects ranging from mushroom cultivation to production of organic fertilisers.

Durg-Ferozpur - Durg Antyodaya Express

- ❖ A new weekly Durg-Ferozpur-Durg Antyodaya Express was launched from Raipur railway station in Chhattisgarh under the South East Central Railway (SECR) zone.
- ❖ The Antyodaya Express has been launched to ensure all facilities equipped journey to all the sections of the society.
- ❖ Antyodaya Express is envisioned to provide superfast and unreserved service to the common man on high dense train traffic routes.

- ❖ Apart from this Antyodaya Express, two other trains, Kolkata-Bilaspur-Pune Humsafar Express and Jabalpur-Bilaspur-Kolkata Humsafar Express–will become operational soon.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Appointment of parliamentary Committees chairman

- ❖ Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge has been re-appointed as chairman of the 22-member Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of Parliament for its fresh term.
- ❖ Lok Sabha speaker Sumitra Mahajan has also re-appointed Murli Manohar Joshi as Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Estimates.
- ❖ Lok Sabha speaker Sumitra Mahajan has also re-appointed Shanta Kumar as Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Undertakings.

Fortune's '50 Greatest Leaders' of 2018

- ❖ Fortune Magazine has recently released worlds 50 Greatest Leaders list.
- ❖ Fortune Magazine's '50 Greatest Leaders' issue is dedicated to "thinkers, speakers, and doers who are stepping up to meet today's challenges".



- ❖ Human rights lawyer Indira Jaising, Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani, and architect Balkrishna Doshi are among Fortune magazine's 'fifty greatest leaders' of 2018 and in the position of 20th, 24th, and 43rd position respectively.

Best Cooperative Society on Digital Platform

- ❖ Adarsh Credit has won "Best Co-operative Society on digital platform" award in the Banking, Financial services and Insurance (BFSI) leadership Awards 2018.
- ❖ Adarsh Credit has adopted e-sign to provide paperless financial services to its members.
- ❖ This initiative will further boost digitization and is a step towards cashless economy.
- ❖ Adarsh Credit is also the first credit co-operative society in India to carry out financial services digitally.
- ❖ Reputed institutions like Max Bupa Health Insurance, VMware, SREI and National Informatics Center were also given awards on BFSI Leadership awards 2018.

World Hindu Congress 2018

- ❖ Heads of several countries with sizeable Hindu population, chief ministers of states, top corporate honchos and religious leaders are scheduled to attend the second World Hindu Congress (WHC) in Chicago in September
- ❖ Second World Hindu Congress will be held from September 7-9 to commemorate 125 years of Swami Vivekananda's historic Chicago address in first World Hindu Congress on September 11, 1893.
- ❖ Tulsi Gabbard, the first Hindu lawmaker in the US Congress, is the chairperson of the Chicago event, which is being organised by World Hindu Foundation.
