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## **APRIL - 2018**

### **TAMIL NADU**

1) ***TN Awards for Tamil Literature, Grammar, Archaeology and epigraphy: 2017***

<b>AWARDS</b>	<b>SCHOLARS</b>
<b>Thamizhthai Award</b>	Bengaluru Tamil Sangam
<b>Kabilar Award</b>	K.V.Balasubramanian
<b>U.Ve.Sa. Award</b>	S.Krishnamurthy
<b>Kambar Award</b>	Sugi. Sivam
<b>Elangovadigal Award</b>	V. Nallathambi
<b>Sollin Selvar Award</b>	Former AIADMK Minister Vaigaiselvan
<b>G.U.Pope Award</b>	K.Rajeswari Kothandam
<b>Umarupulavar Award</b>	Haji. M. Muhamad Yusuf
<b>Amma Ilakiya (Literary) Award</b>	M.S. Srilakshmi (Singapore)
<b>CM's Tamil Computing Award (Kanini Tamil Award) - 2016</b>	R. Doraipandi (Ultimate Software Solutions - Dindugal)

2) ***World Tamil Sangam Award 2016:***

<b>AWARDS</b>	<b>SCHOLARS</b>
<b>Literary Award</b>	Andiappan (Singapore)
<b>Grammar Award</b>	Benjamin Lobo (France)
<b>Linguistic Award</b>	Subhashini (Germany)

3) ***World Tamil Sangam Award 2017:***

<b>AWARDS</b>	<b>SCHOLARS</b>
<b>Literary Award</b>	Chandrika Subramaniyan (Australia)
<b>Grammar Award</b>	Ulrike Nicholas (Germany)
<b>Linguistic Award</b>	Mahadeva Iyer Jayarama Sarma (Australia)

- 4) **Kannadhasan Award 2018: S.P. Balasubramiyan (Singer) & Malan (Writer)** given by Kovai Kannadhasan Kalagam.
- 5) **DefExpo India- 2018:** PM inaugurated the **4 Days DEFENCE-EXPO, 10<sup>th</sup> edition** of the expo was held on **(11<sup>th</sup> Apr – 14<sup>th</sup> Apr 2018)** in **Thiruvidadanthai, Thiruporur Taluk, Kancheepuram District.** **THEME: “India: The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub”**
- 6) **My Green Bin:** It is an “Organic Composter” which converts the **garbages into Organic Compost** which will be given by **Arakkonam Municipality** to every home.
- 7) **Train Tickets for unreserved** is again started to be printed in **“TAMIL”** from **25<sup>th</sup> April 2018**, already there are only English & Hindi languages.
- 8) **Elections for cooperative societies: M. Rajendran, Commissioner** of Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Societies Election Commission announced that the polls would be held in **five phases.**
- 9) **Uzhavan App:** It is a Bi-Lingual (**Tamil & English**) App launched by TN CM. Through this app, the farmers can get the details of **Crop Insurance, Farm Subsidies, Weather forecast report.**
- 10) **Amma Free Wi-Fi zones:** TN govt has launched Amma Free Wi-Fi zones (**1<sup>st</sup> 20min’s free & Next Rs.10 charged per hour**) in **five cities** on **5<sup>th</sup> April 2018** Namely,
  - **Chennai** - Labour Statue at Marina
  - **Salem** - Central Bus Stand
  - **Trichy** - Central Bus Stand
  - **Coimbatore** - Gandhipuram Bus Stand
  - **Madurai** - M.G.R Bus Stand (Mattuthavani)
- 11) **12<sup>th</sup> Century Inscription:** *12<sup>th</sup> Century Old Inscriptions, Nandhi statue, Romanian style Red pots, Iron knives* are found in the **“Mangudi Village” in Rajapalayam Taluk, Virudhunagar District.** (Ancient Tamil Poet **“Mangudi Maruthanar”** lived in the village who was a contemporary to the Ancient Pandiyan King: **“Thalaiyalanganathu SeruVendra Pandiya Nedunchezhiyan”**)
- 12) **Tamil Nadu Digital Library: ([www.tndigitallibrary.ac.in](http://www.tndigitallibrary.ac.in))** TNCM launched the Tamil Nadu Digital Library.

- 13) **Mr. M.K.Surappa** was appointed as the **Vice-chancellor of Anna University**.
- 14) **Anitha SAT:** is a **500gm** lightweight Conical Shaped satellite was made by 17yr old 12<sup>th</sup> STD student **Villet Oviya** from Trichy to measure the **effects of air pollution and global warming** of the earth. The Satellite was launched from **Aztra Lab, Mexico**.
- 15) **Water Desalination plant:** The 1<sup>st</sup> phase of **desalination plant using electromagnetic waves** was launched at **Ilayankudi and Suranam** in Sivagangai district.
- 16) **Governor of TN, Banwarilal Purohit** inaugurated and flagged off the **“Swachh Thiruvalluvar”** awareness van in the Thiruvallur district. It comes under the Swachh Bharat scheme.
- 17) **Thamizhchuddar Award:** Kamban Thamizh Kalagam gave the award to Prof. **Rukmani Paneerselvam**.
- 18) **Ramanujar 1001:** On 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018, **Ramanujar’s 1001 avatar festival** was celebrated in Sriperambuthur.
- 19) **St. Andrew’s Church / The Kirk:** The Kirk located in Egmore, Chennai celebrated the **200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**. One of the oldest churches in Madras built by *Scottish Community*.
- 20) **The best Engineering student of the year** awarded to **Ms. Janani** from Salem. Award was given by **India Institute of Technical Education**.
- 21) **Chennai Metro Rail & State Bank of India** jointly released the **“SBI PAY”** App for the travellers.
- 22) **Website & App for Vandaloor Zoological Park:** **“www.aazp.in”** website was introduced to **explore the animals & birds virtually**. App named as **“Vandaloor zoo”**
- 23) **Tamil Nadu Defence Quad:** The Finance Minister announced in the Budget (2018-19) setting of **Defence Production Corridors in Tamil Nadu**. The corridor will extend from **Chennai, Hosur, Coimbatore, Salem, and Tiruchirappalli**.

## **NATIONAL**

- 1) **Right to convert is a Fundamental Right:** From the *case of Hadiya*, the **Supreme Court** has recently given a judgment that the right to convert is a fundamental right on **8<sup>th</sup> March 2018**. **Right to Freedom of Religion (Art 25 - 28)**.
- 2) **GST e-way Bill:** **From April 1, 2018**, the e-way bill will be mandatory for the **interstate transportation** of goods worth over **Rs. 50,000** through **roadways, railways, airways, and waterways**. **Intra – State** transportation bill will come to effect from **15<sup>th</sup> April 2018**. *Karnataka was the 1<sup>st</sup> state to operationalize the intrastate e-way bill system in Sep-2017.*
- 3) The University of Hyderabad has discovered **two endangered languages Walmiki and Malhar** predominantly spoken in **Odisha**.
- 4) **Chennai** is set to join the list of 50 cities notified by **World Council on City Data Certification**. It has been established by the *Tata Trusts and the World Council on City Data* to **develop the urban infrastructures and life of urban people**.
- 5) **Bihar government** reduced the **government exam fees for women**. (*For Preliminary exams: Rs. 600/- to Rs. 160/- & for Mains Exams: Rs. 750/- to Rs. 200*).
- 6) **Hyderabad in Telangana** has been ranked as the **top city** and *Chennai has been ranked 14<sup>th</sup>* in the **“Global City Momentum Index - 2018”** by **JLL**.
- 7) **Sikkim government** gave **Rs.1000/- as pension for organic farmers**.
- 8) **Best Panchayat of India:** *Ministry of Panchayati Raj* has given the best panchayat award to the **Digambarpur panchayat in West Bengal**
- 9) **Multi-Modal Logistics Park:** Multi-Modal Logistics Park was planned to set up at **Balli Station near Madgaon in Goa**.
- 10) GI tag has been given to Telangana’s **Adilabad dokra and Warangal Dhurries**.

- 11) **World's largest solar park (5000MW)** was planned to set up at **Dholera, Gujarat.** (Shakthi Sthala of Karnataka – 2000MW)
- 12) **Cleanest Airport in India:** *Airports Authority of India* released the report that **Mangalore International Airport** is the Cleanest Airport in India.
- 13) **Toll-Free number in Cigarette packets:** The Union government has ordered to **print the toll-free number 1800-11-2356** in Cigarette packets.
- 14) The **Madras High Court** became 1<sup>st</sup> High court in south India and overall 8<sup>th</sup> in India to introduce **e-court fee payment facility.**
- 15) According to the report released by the **Steel Users Federation of India (SUFI).** India becomes a **2<sup>nd</sup> largest** manufacturer of **crude steel** and China is the largest producer of crude steel in the world.
- 16) **Intelligent Traffic Management Solution: Bengaluru city** tested the prototype of the Intelligent Traffic Management Solution for the **1<sup>st</sup> time.**
- 17) **5G lab: India's 1<sup>st</sup> 5G is a Massive MIMO Radio lab** inaugurated in **IIT New Delhi** on **13<sup>th</sup> April 2018.** The lab has been set up in Bharathi School of Telecom Technology and Management.
- 18) **BS-VI fuel:** To suppress the pollution level, **Delhi government** has planned to impose the **ultra-clean Bharat Stage VI grade fuel (both petrol and diesel)** on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018. **(BS-VI = Euro VI)** Delhi will be the **1<sup>st</sup> city in India** to impose the BS-VI fuel and *Nationwide implementation from April 2020*
- 19) **Internet Security Threat Report: India is the 3<sup>rd</sup> most vulnerable country** (India moved 1 position above from previous year) to cyber threats after **USA and China.** The report is released by **Symantec.**
- 20) **National Institutional Ranking Framework 3 (NIRF 3) Rankings 2018:** IISc – Bangalore tops in the Ranking and AIIMS – Delhi is the Best Medical College in the country released by **Ministry of Resource & Development.**

- 21) **Competition Commission of India:** The Union Cabinet decided to reduce the number of members **from one chairperson and six members to one chairperson and three members.**
- 22) **Uttarakhand's second Mega Food Park:** Himalayan Mega Food Park is located at Mahuakhera Ganj in Kashipur, Udham Singh Nagar district. 1<sup>st</sup> Park was located in Haridwar.
- 23) The Union Cabinet has approved the **Protection of Human Rights (Amendments) Bill, 2018** on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in Parliament. The Bill was previously amended in **1993 and 2006.**
- 24) The Union government has **banned the import of hormone oxytocin** to stop its misuse in livestock industry from 7<sup>th</sup> April 2018.
- 25) The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has introduced the secured digitally-signed **QR Code on e-Aadhaar**
- 26) **The 8<sup>th</sup> edition of Theatre Olympics** was concluded in Mumbai, Maharashtra after **a glorious run of 51 days across 17 cities of India.** It was inaugurated in New Delhi on Feb 2018.
- 27) **One nation one election: Justice B.S. Chauhan Committee** released the white paper draft about the *simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and state assemblies.*
- 28) **West Bengal** government gave the approval for the **Sunderban Reserve Forest to get Ramsar site status.**
- 29) **Project Dhoop:** Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, NCERT and New Delhi Municipal Council jointly introduced this project to create awareness and address **vitamin D deficiency (VDD)** among young people. The aim of the project is to encourage schools to shift their morning assembly to around noon-time, mainly **between 11 am to 1 pm**
- 30) **e-Vidhan project:** To digitize all the **State Legislatures in India** to make them **paperless.**
- 31) **Protected Area Permit Regime:** Ministry of home affairs allowed the **foreign tourists** to access border areas of **Nagaland, Mizoram, and Manipur for five years** from **April 1, 2018.**

- 32) **ArchaeoBroma:** India's 1<sup>st</sup> **nationwide food archaeology** conference was held in **Mumbai**.
- 33) Supreme Court has issued directions regarding Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (**Prevention of Atrocities Act**), 1989 to prevent the misuse of provisions of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities).
- 34) National Commission for Minority Education Institutions (**NCMEI**) has **original jurisdiction (Art 29 & Art 30)** to determine an *establishment as a minority educational institution*.
- 35) The first meeting of the newly constituted '**NITI Forum for North East**' took place in **Agartala, Tripura**.
- 36) **NITI Aayog** has released a **report of Task Force**, constituted under "**Cleaner Air Better Life**" initiative on **Biomass Management**.
- 37) **Madhubani Painting: Madhubani/Mithila Painting** was used to **decorate Madhubani railway station in Bihar** which also *became one of the cleanest railway stations in India*.

### **INTERNATIONAL**

- 1) **President Ram Nath Kovind's** recently visited African Countries

<b>Equatorial Guinea</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Indian President to visited Equatorial Guinea.
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<b>Swaziland</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Indian President to visited Swaziland.
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<b>Zambia</b>	After 29yrs, Zambia was Visited by Indian President
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- 2) **Bangladesh government** removes the **Quota System from the Government Services**.
- 3) **Sin tax or Sugar tax: UK government** has imposed a tax on Soft Drinks **to reduce the obesity and sugar related disease**.
- 4) **CLOUD ACT:** U.S. President has declared the **Clarifying Lawful Overseas Use of Data Act (CLOUD Act)**. *The Act establishes **processes and procedures for law enforcement requests for data in other countries***.

- 5) **Justice Rajesh Bindal committee:** The committee recommended the Indian government to establish *Inter-Country Parental Child Removal Disputes Resolution Authority* in India.
- 6) **ASIAN PREMIUM:** India, China and other Asian countries combined together to raise voice against the **“Asian premium”** being charged by the **Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)**. (*Asian Premium is the extra charge being collected by OPEC countries from Asian countries when selling oil*).
- 7) **Pollution-forecast system: India, US, and Finland** jointly developed a new pollution-forecast system.
- 8) **India becomes a 2<sup>nd</sup> largest producer** of mobile phones in 2017 and replaced Vietnam. Currently, China is in the no. 1 position.
- 9) **Permanent Indus Commission:** 114<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission between India and Pakistan was held in **New Delhi**. It was established under the Indus Water Treaty 1960.
- 10) **Moscow Conference on International Security 2018:** 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Conference was held in **Moscow, Russia**. The Union Defence Minister Mrs. Nirmala Seetharam participated.
- 11) **PANMUNJOM DECLARATION: North Korea President Kim Jong-Un and South Korea president Moon Jae-in** signed Panmunjom Declaration on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018. (**Panmunjom is located in South Korea**) About Nuclear weapons, Peace Deal, Inter-Korean Communication.
- 12) **African Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO)** conducts a workshop in **Kochi, Kerala** that mainly focused on food security, agriculture, and fisheries.
- 13) **China planned to build a canal to reshape the Indian Ocean.** A **100-km canal** built across Thailand which divides it into two parts.
- 14) **Global Energy Transformation: International Renewable Energy Agency** has launched its long-term renewable energy outlook **“Global Energy Transformation: A Roadmap to 2050”**.

## **SUMMITS & CONFERENCES**

- 1) **Global Logistics Summit 2018:** *The Ministry of Commerce & Industry and World Bank Group* organized the summit to improve logistics and connectivity between Intra-state and International trade flow held in **New Delhi from April 5 - 6, 2018.**
- 2) **World Expo 2020:** India has signed the contract with Dubai to have **India's Pavilion in World Expo 2020** to be held in Dubai.
- 3) **World Hindi Conference 2018:** The 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the conference will be held in **Port Louis, Mauritius** on August. **THEME: Vaishvik Hindi Aur Bharatiya Sanskriti.**
- 4) **International Buddhist Conference:** The Conference was held in **Lumbini, Nepal** on 29 and 30 April 2018 to commemorate **2562<sup>nd</sup> Buddha Jayanti.** **THEME: The birthplace of Lord Buddha and the fountain of Buddhism and the world.**
- 5) **India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018:** The *India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018* was held on April 16-17, 2018, in New Delhi. **THEME: Securing Global Supply Chains through Government-Industry Partnerships towards Effective Implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540.**
- 6) **International Energy Forum:** 16<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Conference was held in *New Delhi* on April 10-12, 2018. **THEME: The Future of Global Energy Security: Transition, Technology, Trade, and Investment.**
- 7) **India Mobile Congress:** Department of Telecommunications will be conducting the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the India Mobile Congress in New Delhi on October 2018. **THEME: NEW DIGITAL HORIZONS Connect, Create, innovate.**
- 8) **The 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Conference of eastern states on Water Resources** was conducted by the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation held in Kolkata, West Bengal to address outstanding water resources issues.
- 9) **Malaria Summit:** *Malaria No More (Non-Profit Organization)* in association with *Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation* conducts the **malaria summit in London, UK.**

- 10) **25<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2018 (CHOGM 2018):** The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2018 was held in **London, UK** on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018. **THEME: Towards a Common Future.**
- 11) **Atal New India Challenge:** The *NITI Aayog* has launched Atal New India Challenge under Atal Innovation Mission to **bring innovations and technologies to the people.**
- 12) **SCO Peace Mission:** India and Pakistan joined together for the 1<sup>st</sup> time to participate in SCO **counter-terror exercise** in **Russia** in September. Also, all the SCO members participated in the Mission.
- 13) **Arab League Summit 2018: 29<sup>th</sup> edition of the conference** was held in **Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.**
- 14) **WUHAN SUMMIT:** Recently the leaders of **China and India** held an **informal summit** at the **Chinese city of Wuhan.**
- 15) **INDIA-NORDIC SUMMIT: 1<sup>st</sup> India-Nordic Summit** took place in **Stockholm, Capital of Sweden.** Nordic countries include **Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark, and Iceland.** *Modi will be the Indian Prime Minister to visit Stockholm since 1988.*

### **SCHEMES/YOJANAS**

- 1) **Satyagraha Se Swachhagraha:** The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation launched this Campaign in New Delhi to commemorate the **100<sup>th</sup> Year of the Champaran Satyagraha (19<sup>th</sup> April 1917).**
- 2) **Rupashree scheme: West Bengal government** Launches Rupashree scheme for the marriage of poor girls. **Before the marriage of a girl an amount of Rs. 25,000 will be credited to that girl's account.**
- 3) **GOBARDhan Scheme: Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources.** The Union Drinking Water & Sanitation Minister has launched the GOBARDhan Scheme in **Karnal district of Haryana on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018**
- 4) **Ganga Hariteema Yojana / Ganga Greenery scheme:** UP government has launched the scheme in the **Banks of River Ganga** by *planting more trees to Control the soil erosion.* **THEME: One Peron One Tree.**

- 5) **POSHAN Abhiyaan: Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition.** The **1<sup>st</sup> meeting of National Council** on India's Nutrition Challenges under POSHAN Abhiyaan was held in **New Delhi**. The Scheme was launched by PM in *Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan on March 2018*.
- 6) **Gram Swaraj Abhiyan:** The Abhiyan was launched for the **rural development** based on the principle of convergence and saturation **launched on the birthday anniversary of B.R. Ambedkar (14<sup>th</sup> April 2018)**
- 7) **Van Dhan Scheme:** PM inaugurated the Van Dhan Scheme for **Tribal's economic development** during the Ambedkar's day on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at **Bijapur, Chattisgarh**.
- 8) **8<sup>th</sup> Regional 3R Forum:** The Ministry of Housing and Affairs inaugurated the **8<sup>th</sup> Regional 3R Forum in Asia and Pacific** was held in **Indore, Madhya Pradesh**. *3R means (Reuse, Reduce, and Recycle).* **THEME:** *Achieving Clean Water, Clean Land, and Clean Air through 3R and Resource Efficiency– A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision for Asia-Pacific Communities.*
- 9) **Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan:** PM inaugurated the scheme to **strengthen the country's Panchayati Raj system** on the occasion of the **National Panchayat Raj day (24<sup>th</sup> April 2018)**.
- 10) **Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan:** *Human Resource Development Minister, Prakash Javadekar has launched the scheme. The aim of the scheme is to motivate and engage children of the age group of 6-18 years in Science, Mathematics, and Technology through observation, experimentation, inference drawing, model building, etc.*
- 11) **Ayushman Bharat Scheme – 1<sup>st</sup> Health & Wellness Centre:** On the occasion of Ambedkar birthday on **14<sup>th</sup> April 2018**. Prime Minister inaugurated the first Health & Wellness Centre in **Bijapur district, Chhattisgarh** to mark the launch of *Ayushman Bharat yojana-National Health Protection Mission (AB - NHPM)*.
- 12) **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana:** Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer welfare has revised the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana. **The Scheme is to support and promote organic farming and improving soil health.**

- 13) The Union government allowed States to set up its **own insurance companies** for implementing **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**.
- 14) The Union Government has **achieved the village electrification targets** after the full electrification of the last village, *Leisang Village, Senapathi District, Manipur* on **28<sup>th</sup> April 2018** under **Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana**.
- 15) **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0**: *Human Resource Development Minister, Prakash Javadekar* launched *Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0* in *New Delhi* on *25<sup>th</sup> April 2018*. **The aim of the Scheme is to Build Institutes of higher education in research & training relevant to the needs of rural people.**

### **DEFENCE & SPACE**

- 1) **Defence Planning Committee**: The Union government has established a Defence Planning Committee (DPC) **under the chairmanship of the National Security Adviser (NSA)**.
- 2) **SAGAR KAVACH**: Two-day coastal security **exercise Sagar Kavach** was held in Kerala coast conducted by Indian Coast Guard (ICG).
- 3) **CHAKRAVAT EXERCISE**: Indian Navy conducted **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise** named **Chakravat meaning cyclone** with Kerala Government in Kochi Coast.
- 4) **GAGANSHAKTI 2018**: **Indian, Pakistan, and China** are going to conduct **Joint Air Combat Exercise** Gaganshakti 2018, from **April 10 to 23, 2018**.
- 5) **SAHYOG-HYEOBLYEOG 2018**: **India and South Korea coast guards** jointly conducted **anti-piracy, search and rescue exercise** in Chennai Coast, Bay of Bengal.
- 6) **KHANJAR V**: **India and Kyrgyzstan** joint military exercise was held in Mizoram.
- 7) **HARIMAU SHAKTI 2018**: Bilateral military joint training exercise **HARIMAU SHAKTI 2018 between India and Malaysia** was conducted in Sengai Perdik, Hulu Langat, Malaysia.
- 8) **FOAL EAGLE**: **U.S and South Korea** joint military exercise.

- 9) **DESERT TIGER 5:** The *United Arab Emirates and Malaysia* jointly concluded military exercise in Dubai, UAE.
- 10) **IRNSS-1I:** It is the **8<sup>th</sup> navigation satellite** by India, successfully launched on **12<sup>th</sup> April 2018** by **PSLV-C41** from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh
- 11) **RH-300 MKII:** The **RH-300 MKII sounding rocket** developed by Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre was successfully launched from Thumba Rocket Launching Station in **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.**
- 12) **SARMAT: Russian** Intercontinental – Ballistic Missile was successfully tested.
- 13) **F/A-18 Super Hornet Fighter Aircraft:** *Boeing, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd, and Mahindra Defence Systems* make an agreement to manufacture the **fighter aircraft F/A-18 Super Hornet in India.**
- 14) **Bhabha Kavach:** The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre has developed **Bhabha Kavach, a next-generation bulletproof jacket, which is of low cost and lightweight.**
- 15) **LYRID 2018:** *The Lyrid 2018 meteor shower was visible across the Northern hemisphere.* This meteor shower was caused by remains of the **C/1861 Thatcher comet.**

### **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

- 1) **National Biopharma Mission:** The Ministry of Science & Technology launched this Mission on **27<sup>th</sup> April 2018.** The aim of the mission is to accelerate the research towards early development of *biopharmaceuticals under National Biopharma Mission.*
- 2) **Earth Bio-Genome Project:** The Earth Bio-Genome Project was announced through a paper titled- **“Earth Bio-Genome Project: Sequencing life for the future of life”** by an international consortium of scientists.
- 3) **Fimbristylis agasthyamalaensis:** Scientists have discovered a new grass like plant species named *Fimbristylis agasthyamalaensis* in **Ponmudi hills, Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve, Western Ghats.**

- 4) **4 New Kingfisher Species:** *Pied Kingfisher, White-throated Kingfisher, Black-capped Kingfisher, and Common Kingfisher* are found in the **Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary, Andhra Pradesh.**
- 5) **Fejervarya goemchi:** Scientists have identified a **new frog species** called *Fejervarya goemchi* in the *Western Ghats, Goa.*
- 6) **World's Largest Mosquito:** Scientists have discovered a giant mosquito with a wingspan of **11.15 centimetres** in Sichuan, China.
- 7) **Odilorhabdins:** Scientists have discovered a new class of **antibiotics** called *odilorhabdins* that **fight drug resistance.**
- 8) **Global nitrogen:** New source of **global nitrogen** discovered on **Earth's bedrock.**
- 9) **World's Smallest Land fern:** Scientists have discovered the **world's smallest land fern (just 1cm long)** named **Malvi's adder's-tongue fern** (*Ophioglossum malviae*) in **Ahwa forests** of the Western Ghats in **Gujarat's Dang district.**
- 10) **Virtual Reality 360°:** **Ministry of Tourism and Google** has launched **a 360° Virtual Reality (VR) video on Incredible India.**
- 11) **ASPIRE:** NASA has successfully tested the **Advanced Supersonic Parachute Inflation Research Experiment (ASPIRE)**, a supersonic parachute to land on Mars.
- 12) **Parker Solar Probe:** NASA planned to launch its 1<sup>st</sup> mission to Sun on August **to study the outer Corona of the Sun.**
- 13) **World's 1<sup>st</sup> Contact Lens:** The US Food and Drug Administration have approved the use of **Acuvue Oasys Contact Lenses with Transitions Light Intelligent Technology**, world's first contact lens that *automatically darkens when exposed to bright light.*
- 14) **UTTAM App:** The Ministry of Coal has launched **Unlocking Transparency by Third Party Assessment of Mined Coal (UTTAM) App for coal quality monitoring and bring coal governance closer to people.**
- 15) **09-3X- Dynamic Tamping Express:** The Indian Railways has introduced the three **09-3x Dynamic Tamping Express machines** for advanced mechanised Track Maintenance.

- 16) **High-speed electric locomotive:** India's 1<sup>st</sup> high-speed electric locomotive with **12000 horsepower (HP) engine** has been launched from **Madhepura Electric Locomotive Factory, Bihar**
- 17) **1<sup>st</sup> offshore Wind Energy project of India:** The 1<sup>st</sup> offshore wind energy developers for developing **1000 MW (1 GW)** offshore wind energy project **in Gulf of Khambat, Gujarat.**
- 18) **Cybersecurity Tech Accord:** Top 34 global technology and securities firms, led by **Microsoft and Facebook**, have signed a "**Cybersecurity Tech Accord**" **to defend people from malicious attacks by cybercriminals.**

## ECONOMICS

- 1) **RBI's released the 1<sup>st</sup> bimonthly policy review for Financial Year 2018-19:**

<b>Repo Rate</b>	6%
<b>Reverse Repo Rate</b>	5.75%
<b>Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)</b>	4%
<b>Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)</b>	19.5%
<b>Bank Rate</b>	6.25%
<b>Marginal Standing Facility Rate (MSF)</b>	6.25%

- 2) **Asian Development Outlook: Asian Development Bank released the outlook** that **India's economy to grow 7.3% in 2018-19 and 7.6% in 2019-20.**
- 3) The Reserve Bank of India switched back to **gross domestic product (GDP) model from the gross value added (GVA)** to estimate the economic activity in the country.
- 4) Finance Ministry has imposed a **10% import duty** for smartphone components such as printed circuit boards (PCBs), camera modules and connectors.
- 5) **Index of Economic Freedom 2018:** *US-based Think Tank, the Heritage Foundation* released this report and India ranked **130<sup>th</sup> out of 186 countries.** Hong Kong tops the list.

- 6) **India is the world's 6<sup>th</sup> largest economy:** According to International Monetary Fund's **World Economic Outlook** on April 2018, India is now the world's sixth largest economy.
- 7) **World Press Freedom Index 2018:** India was ranked 138 out of 180 Countries. Norway was in the 1<sup>st</sup> position.
- 8) **Commonwealth Innovation Index 2018:** The index was created in partnership with **United Nations World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)** and the **Global Innovation Index (GII)**. **India has been ranked 10<sup>th</sup> out of 53 countries.** The UK was in the top position.
- 9) **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has relaxed its rules for investments by **Foreign Portfolio Investors** in Indian bonds.
- 10) **ALGORITHM TRADING: SEBI has relaxed restrictions on algorithm trading at commodity derivatives exchanges.** It is an advanced mathematical model that involves automated execution of the trade.
- 11) The Union Government has recently **amended the Prevention of Money-laundering Act, 2002 through Finance Act, 2018.**

### AWARDS

- 1) **65<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards 2017** announced on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018

<b>Dada Saheb Phalke Award</b>	Vinod Khanna
<b>Dada Saheb Phalke Excellence Award</b>	Anushka Sharma
<b>Best Film</b>	Village Rockstars (Assamese) – Director & Producer (Rima Das)
<b>Best Tamil Film</b>	<b>To Let (Director: Chezhiyan)</b>
<b>Best Actor</b>	Riddhi Sen (For Nagar Kirtan) - Bengali
<b>Best Actress</b>	Sri Devi (For MOM) - Hindi
<b>Best Director</b>	Jayaraj – Malayalam (For Bhayanakam)
<b>Best Music Director</b>	A R Rahman (For Katru Veliyidai)

- 2) **Condecoracion Award: President Ramnath Govind** got the award. *It is the highest award given for a non – citizen of Equatorial Guinea* by the Equatorial Guinea government
- 3) **Pulitzer Prizes 2018: New York Times Newspaper** from the US has won the Pulitzer Prize 2018 for their outstanding performance of the publishing of the News.
- 4) **Most Film Friendly State award 2017:** During the 65<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards in New Delhi. **Madhya Pradesh was selected for the Most Film Friendly State award 2017.**
- 5) **UNESCO World Press Freedom Prize 2018: Jailed Egyptian** photo journalist **Mahmoud Abu Zeid (alias) Shawkan**, won the UNESCO World Press Freedom Prize.
- 6) **Saraswati Samman 2017:** Gujarathi Poet, **Sitanshu Yashaschandra** was selected for 2017 Saraswati Samman for his “**Vakhar**” poem published in 2009. The award was given by **K.K. Birla Foundation**.
- 7) **J.C. Daniel Award: Sreekumaran Thampi** (Director) won the award. This award is the **Kerala government’s highest honour for lifetime contribution to Malayalam cinema.**

### **APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS**

- 1) **World’s 1<sup>st</sup> Microfactory:** Indian origin **Veena Sahajwalla** from Australia has launched **world’s first microfactory** that can *transform components from electronic waste items into valuable materials for re-use.*
- 2) **Indu Malhotra: 1<sup>st</sup> Woman Lawyer** to be directly promoted as the **Supreme Court Judge** from the Bar Council.
- 3) **Finance Minister Arun Jaitley** was re-appointed as the **Leader of Rajya Sabha.**
- 4) **Longest serving CM of India:** Mr. **Pawan Kumar Chamling from Sikkim** is the Longest serving Chief Minister of India **He has completed 23 years, four months and 17 days of uninterrupted service in office.** He surpassed earlier record held by Jyoti Basu, 5-term West Bengal CM who held office for 23 years. Basu was in office from June 21, 1977, to November 6, 2000. From Tamil Nadu, **Mr. M.**

**Karunanidhi was the Longest Served CM & 5<sup>th</sup> in India Level (18yrs, 293 Days).**

- 5) **Rajesh Ranjan** was appointed as the **Director General** of **Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)**.
- 6) The Union Finance Ministry has appointed **Bhanu Pratap Sharma** as the **chairman of the Banks Board Bureau (BBB)** followed by Vinod Rai.
- 7) **Rosemary DiCarlo** from the US to become the **First woman to head UN political affairs**.
- 8) **Lionel Messi** was appointed as the **ambassador of the UN World Tourism Organization**.
- 9) **Ban Ki-moon** from South Korea was selected as Chairman of **Boao Forum for Asia (BFA)**.
- 10) **Country's New Presidents:**

COUNTRY	PRESIDENT
Paraguay	Mario Abdo Benitez
Sierra Leone	Julius Maada Bio

### **BOOKS & AUTHORS**

- 1) **Book: "Indira Gandhi – A Life in Nature"** was written by the Jairam Ramesh (Senior Congress Leader).

### **SPORTS**

- 1) **BCCI under public body:** The Law Commission of India has recommended **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** as a public body and all the member cricket associations to be brought under **Right to Information (RTI) law**.

2) **21<sup>st</sup> Commonwealth Games 2018: Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia**  
**Apr 4 - 15, 2018.**

- **THEME:** "A Peace-building Commonwealth"
- **Mascot:** Borobi
- **Motto:** "Share the Dream"
- **Emblem:** "silhouette of the skyline and landscape of Gold Coast"
- **Official song:** "Welcome to Earth" (recorded by the Australian Singer Delta Goodrem)
- **71 Commonwealth Nations & Territories participated in the CWG 2018.**
- **Total No. Of Sports: 18 & 7 Parasports.**
- **Only 39 Common Wealth Nations & Territories are in the Final Medal Tally.**
- **Beach Volleyball, Para Triathlon, and Women's Rugby Sevens will make their Commonwealth Games debuts and for the first time at a Commonwealth Games, an equal number of men's and women's medal events will be contested.**
- *Australia won 198 Medals (80 Gold – 59 Silver – 59 Bronze) – 1<sup>st</sup> place.*
- *England won 136 Medals (45 Gold – 45 Silver – 46 Bronze) – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place.*
- *India won 66 Medals (26 Gold – 20 Silver – 20 Bronze) – 3<sup>rd</sup> place.*

**Flag Bearers:** Opening: P.V. Sindhu

Closing: Mary Kom

(Next Commonwealth Games 2022 will be held in Birmingham, England)

**Multimedalists:**

**From India:**

- **Manika Batra (Table Tennis) – 4 Medals [2G – 1S- 1B]**
- **Saina Nehwal (Badminton) – 2 Golds**

**Overall:**

- **Mitch Larkin – Swimming – 5 Golds**
- **Nile Wilson – Artistic Gymnastics – 6 Medals [4G – 2S]**
- **Diamanto Evripidou (Woman)- Rhythmic Gymnastics – 6 Medals [4G – 1S – 1B]**

**GOLD: Taylah Robertson (19 yr old Australian Boxer) wins the first gold** in 51kg Category of the Commonwealth Games.

**Mirabhai chanu – 48kg (1<sup>st</sup> gold medal winner for India on an opening day)**

**Weightlifting**

Sathish Kumar Sivalingam – 77kg (**From Tamil Nadu**)

Punam Yadav- 69kg Women

Sanjita Sanu – 53kg Women

Venkat Rahul Ragala – 85kg Men

**Boxing**

Mary Kom – 45 – 48kg (**Won Gold in her Debut Commonwealth games**)

Gaurav Solanki – 52kg

Vikas Krishnan – 75kg

**Free State Level TNPSC Group II (OT) MOCK TEST on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018 (Sunday)**

**Test Centres:** 1. Anna Nagar, 2. Adyar, 3. Salem, 4. Madurai, 5. Trichy, 6. Tirunelveli, 7. Cuddalore, 8. Vellore, 9. Thanjavur, 10. Kancheepuram, 11. Krishnagiri, 12. Erode, 13. Palani, 14. Coimbatore, 15. Namakkal

<b>Table Tennis</b>	Manika Batra – <i>(1<sup>st</sup> Indian Women to win the gold in Commonwealth for Table Tennis)</i> Indian Table Tennis Team Women’s Team won the <b>1<sup>st</sup> Commonwealth gold</b> by beating Singapore. Indian Table Tennis Team Men’s Team won the gold by defeating Nigeria.
<b>Freestyle Wrestling</b>	Vinesh Phogat – 50kg Women Bhajrang Punia – 65kg Sumit Malik – 125kg Men Rahul Aware – 57 Kg
<b>Javelin Throw</b>	Neeraj Chopra <i>(1<sup>st</sup> Indian to Win the gold in Javelin Throw)</i>
<b>Shooting</b>	Anish Bhanwala <i>(15yrs – 25m rapid fire)</i> Tejaswini Sawant – 50m Shreyasi Singh – <i>Double trap Women Shooting</i>
<b>Badminton</b>	Saina Nehwal – Women’s Single Satwik Rankireddy & Ashwini Ponaappa (Mixed Doubles) – <i>(1<sup>st</sup>.time Mixed doubles team win the gold)</i>
<b>Air Pistol</b>	Manu Bhaker – 10m Women Jitu Rai – 10m Men Heena Sidhu – 25m

**Silver:**

*P. Gururaja – 56kg Men Wrestler (1<sup>st</sup> Silver medal winner for India)*

<b>Badminton</b>	<b>P.V.Sindhu (against Saina Nehwal)</b> Kidami Srinath
<b>Squash</b>	Dipika Pallikal & Joshna Chinappa (Women’s Doubles Squash) Dipika Pallikal & Sourav Ghosal (Mixed Doubles Squash)
<b>Boxing</b>	Manish Kaushik – 60kg Men Amit Phangal – 46-49kg Men
<b>Table Tennis</b>	Manika Batra & Mouma Das (Women’s Doubles)

<b>Wrestling</b>	P. Gururaja – 56kg Men ( <b>1<sup>st</sup> Silver medal winner for India</b> )
	Mausam Khatri – 97kg Men
	Pooja Dhanda – 57 kg Women
	Pradeep Singh – 105kg Men
	Babitha Kumari – 53kg Women
<b>Discus Throw</b>	Seema Punia (60.41m)
<b>Shooting</b>	Mehuli Ghosh - 10m
	Heena Sidhu – 10m
	Tejaswini Sawant – 50m
<b>Bronze:</b>	
<b>Para Powerlifting</b>	<b>Sachin Chaudry</b> (men's heavyweight category in para powerlifting)
<b>Table Tennis</b>	Manika Batra & G. Sathiyam (Mixed Doubles)
	Sharath Kamal
	Harmeet Desai and Sanil Shankar Shetty (Men's Doubles)
<b>Badminton</b>	Ashwini Ponnappa & Sikki Reddy (Women's Doubles)
<b>Wrestling</b>	Somveer (86kg)
	Divya Kakran (68kg)
	Kiran (76kg)
<b>Discus Throw</b>	Navjeet Dhillon (57.43m)
<b>Shooting</b>	Ankur Mittal (Double – Trap Shooting)
	Ravi Kumar (10m)
<b>Air Pistol</b>	Om Mitharval ( <b>Won both in 50m &amp; 10m</b> )
	Apurvi Chandela (10m)
<b>Weightlifting</b>	Deepak Lather ( <b>From Haryana – Youngest Indian to win the medal in Commonwealth games</b> ) -69kg
	Vikas Thakur (94kg)

3) **Miami Open 2018: Tennis (March 19 - April 1)**

<b>Men's Singles</b>	John Isner (USA) <i>def.</i> Alexander Zverev (Germany)
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	Mike Bryan & Bob Bryan (USA) <i>def.</i> Khachanlov & Rublev (Russia)
<b>Women's Singles</b>	Solane stephens (USA) <i>def.</i> Jelena Ostapenko (Latvian)
<b>Women's Doubles</b>	Barty (AUS) & Vandeweghe (USA) <i>def.</i> Krejчикova & Siniakova (CZE)

4) **Navjot Kaur** became the **1<sup>st</sup> Indian women to win the gold medal at Asian Wrestling Championship** held in **Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan**.

5) **Santaizi ATP Challenger 2018:** Indian tennis player has won the "Yuki Bhambri" tournament held in **Taipei, Capital city of Taiwan**.

6) Tournoi World Cup Satellite Fencing Championship: India's **C.A. Bhavana** won the **Silver medal** held in Reykjavik, Iceland.

7) **Rolex Monte Carlo Masters 2018: Tennis**

<b>Men's Singles</b>	Rafael Nadal (Spain) <i>def.</i> Kei Nishikori (Japan)
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	Mike Bryan & Bob Bryan (USA) <i>def.</i> Oliver Marach (Austria) & Mate Pavic (Croatia)

8) **Professional Footballers Association Player of the Year 2017-18: Mohammed Salah (Egypt)**

9) **Prajnesh Gunneswaran** from Chennai has clinched the **1<sup>st</sup> ever singles tennis title on the ATP Challenger circuit on April 29, 2018**.

10) **Indian Premier League (IPL) 2018: 11<sup>th</sup> edition** of the season was inaugurated on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in **Mumbai**.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

DAYS	EVENTS	THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE
April 1	Odisha Day / Utkal Diwas	To commemorate the formation of the state, which was carved out of the combined Bengal-Bihar-Orissa province in 1936.
April 2	World Autism Awareness Day	"Empowering women and girls with autism"
April 5	National Maritime Day	"Indian Shipping – An Ocean of opportunity"
April 6	International Day of Sport for Development and Peace	This date marks the opening of the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896.
April 7	70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of "World Health Day"	<b>Theme:</b> Universal Health Coverage: everyone, everywhere. <b>Slogan:</b> Health for all
April 10	World Homoeopathy Day	The Theme of two day Convention is "Innovate Evolve, Progress: Exploring Science for 40 years".
April 11	National Safe Motherhood Day	"Respectful Maternity Care"
April 12	World Aviation and Cosmonautics Day	To commemorate the first-ever flight of a human in space.
April 17	World Hemophilia Day	"sharing knowledge makes us stronger"
April 18	World Heritage Day	"Heritage for Generations"
April 19	World Liver Day	"Riding new waves in liver diagnosis, staging, and treatment."
April 21	World Civil Service Day	"New India Shaping the Future"
	World Creativity & Innovation Day	To encourage creative multidisciplinary thinking to help us achieve the sustainable future we want.
April 22	World Earth Day	"End Plastic Pollution"
April 23	World Book and Copyright Day	To increase the reading habit among the world public and to promote publishing and copyright of books.
April 24	National Panchayati Raj Day	Decentralization of political power to the grassroots level.
April 25	World Malaria Day	"Ready to beat malaria"

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April 26	World Intellectual Property Day	“Powering change: Women in innovation and creativity.”
April 29	International Dance Day	International Dance Day is a global celebration of dance, created by the Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute.

***\*\*The 29<sup>th</sup> Road Safety Week in Tamil Nadu was observed from (23<sup>rd</sup> April – 29<sup>th</sup> April)***

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY  
ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS