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## **AUGUST - 2018**

### **TAMIL NADU**

- 1) **Justice Vijaya Kamlesh Tahilramani** was appointed as the Chief Justice of Madras High Court (*30<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice since Independence*) on **12<sup>th</sup> August 2018 according to the Art.217 of the constitution (3<sup>rd</sup> Woman Chief Justice after of Madras High Court)**
- 2) **Former Longest serving CM and DMK president Dr. M. Karunanidhi aged 94** was passed away on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Pondicherry CM Thiru Narayanaswamy has announced that a ***Tamil chair will be set up in the name of Former TN CM Thiru Kalam Karunanidhi at Pondicherry Central University.***
- 3) **TN Govt awards were presented on 72<sup>nd</sup> Independence Day (15-08-2018):**

<b>DR. A.P.J ABDUL KALAM AWARD</b>	Actor Ajith Kumar's Daksha Team, Space Research Centre of Anna University
<b>KALPANA CHAWLA AWARD</b>	Muthukumari of Periyakallar who saved her daughter from Cheetah.
<b>CM'S GOOD GOVERNANCE AWARD</b>	Project Star 2.0 of Registration department of TN for their speedy work to the common people/public.
<b>BEST CORPORATION AWARD</b>	Thirupur
<b>BEST MUNICIPALITY AWARD</b>	Kovilpatti, Thoothukodi district
<b>BEST PANCHAYAT AWARD</b>	Jalagandapuram, Salem district

- 4) **National Best Teacher Award 2017: Mrs R. Sathy**, headmistress of the Madukkarai Panchayat Union Primary School in Malumichampatti Village, Coimbatore has won the ***"National Best Teacher Award 2017"***
- 5) **Dr. Sheila Stephen** was the **1<sup>st</sup> woman** to be appointed as the ***Vice-Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University.***

- 6) **Forest Genetic Resources Tree Park** to be opened near Vandaloor, Kancheepuram District.
- 7) **Pillion Rider Helmet Rule:** TN govt has passed the order on **24<sup>th</sup> August 2018** that **helmet is mandatory for both rider & pillion two wheeler riders.**
- 8) **Plastic Pollution Free campaign:** TN CM has flagged off a campaign called **“Plastic Pollution Free Tamil Nadu”** on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2018. And He has also launched Logo of the campaign and Website for Plastic Pollution Free Tamil Nadu. (**Brand Ambassadors of the campaign:** Actors Surya, karthi, Vivek and Actress Jyothika)
- 9) **World Yoga Day** festival was celebrated in Mamallapuram on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2018
- 10) **M D New Diamond:** World’s largest Crude Oil Ship **“M D New Diamond”** was 1<sup>st</sup> time landed in *Chennai Harbour*.
- 11) **e – Governance Award:** TN Chief Minister’s Award for Excellence in e-Governance for students **to encourage and create awareness on e-Governance among the college students, by having a competition for development of innovative e-Governance Software applications.**
- 12) **PERSPECTIVE PLAN 2018 – 2030:** The Tamil Nadu government on **28<sup>th</sup> August 2018** unveiled its **disaster management plan “State Disaster Management Perspective Plan — 2018-2030”** prepared by the Revenue and Disaster Management Department.

## NATIONAL

- 1) **India's 1<sup>st</sup> Cow Sanctuary:** The first cow sanctuary in **Rajasthan** will be situated in **Napasar, Bikaner district**.
- 2) **"Swachhameva Jayate" Campaign:** The *Karnataka government* has launched a rural cleanliness and sanitation campaign "Swachhameva Jayate" **to make every citizen in rural Karnataka to take a pledge of cleanliness.**
- 3) **India's 1<sup>st</sup> all-woman Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team:** **Delhi Police** has inducted India's first all-woman Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team for anti-terrorist operations.
- 4) **Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee passed away on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018.**
- 5) **Atal Nagar:** On August 21, the Chhattisgarh government has decided to **re-name state's new capital city of Naya Raipur as "Atal Nagar"** in memory of late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- 6) **Somnath Chatterjee**, the former Lok Sabha Speaker & veteran leader, has passed away in Kolkata, West Bengal on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018.
- 7) The Lok Sabha has passed **the 123<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Bill** providing for a **National Commission for Backward Classes as a constitutional body.**
- 8) **Biofuel Policy: Rajasthan** became 1<sup>st</sup> state in the country to implement National Policy on Biofuels.
- 9) **Logo, Tagline for GI:** Ministry of Commerce and Industry has unveiled **tricolour logo for geographical indication (GI)** certified products. The logo has tagline **"Invaluable Treasures of Incredible India"** The Logo & Tagline was designed by,
  - **Logo** - Adri Chatterjee
  - **Tagline** - Akancha Tripathi
- 10) **Kadaknath chicken** (meat with black flesh) from **Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh** has received Geographical Indication (GI) tag and **"Nagercoil Temple Jewels"** from Tamil Nadu got GI Tag.
- 11) **'Horn not ok' Awareness campaign and 'ShaurNahin' (no noise) Mobile App:** *Himachal Pradesh CM Jai Ram Thakur* launched the



campaign and **app to spread awareness of unnecessary blowing horn as it creates unnecessary noise pollution and is harmful to health.**

- 12) **Thermal Battery plant:** The world's first-ever thermal battery plant owned by Bharat Energy Storage Technology Private Limited was inaugurated in **Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh.**
- 13) **Meghalaya government** passed the resolution that **marriage certificate will be must for official work in Meghalaya**
- 14) 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Quit India movement** (*Bharat Chhodo Andolan or August Movement or August Kranti*) was observed on **8<sup>th</sup> August 2018**
- 15) **Khangchendzonga from Sikkim** becomes 11<sup>th</sup> Biosphere Reserve from India under World Network of Biosphere Reserves.
- 16) **Axis Bank** became 1<sup>st</sup> bank in the country to introduce **Iris Scan Authentication feature for Aadhaar-based transactions**
- 17) **Digital North East Vision 2022:** Union Minister for Electronics & Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad has released the **Digital North East Vision 2022** aims to empower the people of the North Eastern region. Under Digital North East.
- 18) **Cleanest Railway Station in India:** Union Railway Minister released the Report according to the following category,

"A1" CATEGORY RANKING	"A" CATEGORY RANKING	ZONAL RANKING
Jodhpur in Rajasthan (1 <sup>st</sup> among 75)	Marwar in Rajasthan (1 <sup>st</sup> among 332)	North Western Railway – (1 <sup>st</sup> among 17 Zones)

- 19) **Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal:** Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal delivered its final verdict to ending 50-year-old dispute over sharing of Mahadayi or Mandovi River between **Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra.**
- 20) **"International Year of Millets" – 2019:** India has proposed United Nations (UN) to declare the year **2019 as "International Year of Millets"**
- 21) **Cyclone Warning Centre & C-band Doppler weather Radar:** The Union Ministry of Earth Sciences has announced **to set up Cyclone**

**Warning Centre in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala and C-band Doppler weather radar at Mangalore, Karnataka.**

- 22) **1<sup>st</sup> Inter-state Transmission System: 126 MW** wind power capacity, part of India's first inter-state transmission system (ISTS) was commissioned in *Bhuj, Gujarat*.
- 23) **Cheetah Reintroduction Project: Madhya Pradesh forest department** reintroduce the Cheetah Reintroduction Project in Nauradehi sanctuary in Sagar district, Madhya Pradesh
- 24) **3 New Districts: Arunachal Pradesh** has created the three new districts, **Pakke-Kesang, Lopa Rada and Shi Yomi** in the state
- 25) India opens **Zokhawthar immigration** check-post in **Mizoram** along Myanmar border.
- 26) **PROJECT NAVLEKHA: Google** has unveiled Project Navlekha to make online content relevant for more Indian users especially in local Indian languages.
- 27) **Silver jubilee of Women in Mt. Everest expedition:** An all-women expedition team has begun its journey to **Mt. Manirang from Himachal Pradesh** and commemorates the Silver jubilee of Women in Mt. Everest expedition
- 28) **TRIPLE TALAQ BILL:** The Union Cabinet has approved a few amendments in the instant triple talaq bill. ***If a Muslim man resorts to triple talaq then he will face a jail term of three years, as instant triple talaq will now be considered a non-bailable, cognisable offence.***
- 29) **Legal guardian of cows:** The **Uttar Pradesh High court** can now act ***as the legal guardian of the cows in the state*** and keep a tab on all issues related to cows especially its directions with regard to their protection.
- 30) **The Odisha government** has approved a ***proposal for setting up a legislative council (MLC) in the state.***
- 31) **Indian National trust for art and cultural heritage:** The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) has called for

*transforming heritage buildings in Rajasthan* into “economic assets” for the society.

- 32) **One District One Product (ekzila – ekutpadan) Scheme:** *Uttar Pradesh government* had organized “**One District One Product**” Summit *to promote traditional industries in every district of the state.*
- 33) **Central Silk Board (CSB)** has recently developed *races of silkworm seed of mulberry and Vanya silk* for increasing the productivity of cocoons and to increase the income of the farmers engaged in sericulture.
- 34) **O-SMART :** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for the umbrella scheme “**Ocean Services, Technology, Observations, Resources Modelling and Science (O-SMART)**”, for implementation during the period from 2017-18 to 2019-20. The scheme encompasses a total of 16 sub-projects addressing ocean development activities such as Services, Technology, Resources, Observations and Science.
- 35) **Blockchain District:** Tech Mahindra and the Telangana government have signed an agreement to establish a Blockchain district in Hyderabad, a first-of-its-kind Centre of Excellence for Blockchain in India.
- 36) **Bhitarkanika National Park:** The *Odisha government* is setting up a world-class interpretation centre at Dangamal near Bhitarkanika National Park *to showcase its efforts in protecting crocodiles and preserving its rich mangrove diversity.*
- 37) **National REDD+ Strategy:** India has prepared its National REDD+ Strategy *to Action Plan on Climate Change, Green India Mission* and India’s Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to UNFCCC.
- 38) **Government of Telangana** has launched for the first time *Disaster Response Force (DRF) vehicles in the Hyderabad city.*
- 39) **LAKHWAR MULTIPURPOSE PROJECT:** The Union government has proposed the project jointly with *Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi for Construction of Lakhwar Multipurpose Project on Yamuna Near Dehradun*

- 40) **NEW and 30<sup>th</sup> ELEPHANT RESERVE:** *Nagaland government* declared the “**Singphan Wildlife Sanctuary**” as an Elephant Reserve, with the approval of central government.
- 41) **PRADEEP KUMAR SINHA COMMITTEE:** The Union Government has constituted a high level empowered committee **to address the issues of stressed thermal power projects.**
- 42) **Santhali** has become the **first Indian tribal language** to get a Wikipedia edition in its native script.
- 43) **International Water Colour Festival 2018** has started at Audrey House in Ranchi, which is organized by the *Jharkhand Art Culture and Tourism Department.*

### INTERNATIONAL

- 1) **India was elected as President** of the **Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD)** for period of two years.
- 2) Former United Nations General Secretary and Nobel Peace Prize laureate **Kofi Annan** passed away in Bern, Switzerland on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2018. **He had served as seventh Secretary-General of UN for two terms reigning from 1997 till 2006.** He was born on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1938 in Kumasi, Ghana
- 3) **POSTAL HIGHWAY:** Postal Highway also called Hulaki Rajmarg runs across the Terai region of Nepal, from Bhadrapur in the east to Dodhara in the west, cutting across the entire width of the country. **The Indian government has funded Rs. 33 crore to the Nepal Government for construction of a Postal Highway.**
- 4) **“8888” UPRISING:** “8888” was a people’s movement that challenged the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party’s grip on political, Burma (Myanmar) economic and social affairs which led the country into extreme poverty on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1988 (8-8-88).
- 5) **Max’s Law:** United Kingdom Government has announced **new plans to change law for organ and tissue donation** to address urgent need for organs within Indian-origin communities. **This will be known as Max’s Law after Max Johnson, a 10-year-old boy who was saved by a heart transplant.**



- 6) US gives **Strategic Trade Authorisation-1 status (STA - 1)** to India. STA allows for license exception with regards to exports from the US.
- 7) **CASPIAN SEA AGREEMENT:** Leaders from *Russia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan* have signed a **legal convention on ways to manage Caspian Sea and its surrounding areas**.
- 8) **VENEZUELA CRISIS:** **Hyper inflation is the biggest problem faced by Venezuela.** The inflation rate there is expected to reach a stunning one million per cent this year, putting it on par with the crises of *Zimbabwe in the 2000s and Germany in the 1920s*, according to the *International Monetary Fund*.
- 9) **US SPACE FORCE:** U.S. President Donald Trump is planning to create a **“space force” or a sixth branch of the American armed forces**.
- 10) **Indo-German Government to Government Umbrella Agreements:** The Government to Government Umbrella Agreement on Financial Cooperation and Technical Cooperation 2017 under the Indo-German Bilateral Development Cooperation were signed in New Delhi.
- 11) **UDAN SCHEME FOR INTERNATIONAL ROUTES:** The Union government has unveiled the draft International Air Connectivity (IAC) scheme. **The scheme envisages increasing the international ticketing to 20 crore by 2027.**
- 12) **HORIZON 2020:** **European Union and India** will collaborate in research and innovation for developing **a next generation influenza vaccine to protect people worldwide**.
- 13) The world's largest 3-D printed reef has been submerged at **Summer Island Maldives**.
- 14) **JOINT POSTAGE STAMPS:** The Union Cabinet was recently apprised of joint issue of Postage Stamps on **“India-South Africa”** on the **theme, “20 Years of Strategic Partnership between India and South Africa”**.
- 15) **Panini language laboratory** was recently inaugurated at Mahatma Gandhi institute in **Mauritius** to promote reading and writing Hindi amongst young and its further development.

## SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

SUMMITS / CONFERENCES	PURPOSE / THEME	PLACE	DATE
<b>24<sup>th</sup> WORLD CONGRESS OF PHILOSOPHY</b>	<b>THEME:</b> “Learning To Be Human”	Beijing, China	13 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>11<sup>th</sup> WORLD HINDI CONFERENCE</b>	<b>THEME:</b> “Vaishvik Hindi Aur Bharatiy Sanskriti”	Port Louis, Mauritius	18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RECENT ADVANCES IN FOOD PROCESSING TECHNOLOGY (iCRAFT)</b>	<b>THEME:</b> “Doubling farmers income through food processing”	Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	17 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>INDIA BANKING CONCLAVE (IBC) 2018</b>	The conclave was aimed at making India’s banking sector more adaptable to face multiple future challenges in the coming years	New Delhi	23 <sup>rd</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>Biennial INTERNATIONAL BUDDHIST CONCLAVE (IBC), 2018</b>	<b>THEME:</b> “Buddha Path – The Living Heritage”	New Delhi	22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2018
<b>G20 DIGITAL ECONOMY MINISTERIAL MEETING</b>	<b>THEME:</b> “Building consensus for fair and sustainable development”	Salta, Argentina	23 <sup>rd</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> INDIAN OCEAN CONFERENCE</b>	<b>THEME:</b> “Building Regional Architectures”	Hanoi, Vietnam	27 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>4<sup>TH</sup> ASIAN ELECTORAL STAKEHOLDERS FORUM (AESF-IV)</b>	<b>THEME:</b> “Advancing Election Transparency and Integrity: Promoting and Defending Democracy Together”	Colombo, Sri Lanka	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2018

<b>1<sup>st</sup> SAARCAGRI COOPERATIVE BUSINESS FORUM</b>	<b>THEME:</b> “Organizing and Strengthening Family Farmers’ Cooperatives to attain the Sustainable-Development-Goals-1 and 2 in South Asia”	Kathmandu, Nepal	29 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>6<sup>TH</sup> REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP (RCEP) TRADE MINISTERS MEETING</b>	RCEP is a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) or comprehensive regional economic integration agreement between the 10-ASEAN countries	Singapore	30-31 <sup>st</sup> August 2018
<b>4<sup>th</sup> BIMSTEC SUMMIT</b>	<b>THEME:</b> “Towards a Peaceful Prosperous, and Sustainable Bay of Bengal Region”	Kathmandu, Nepal	30-31 <sup>st</sup> August 2018

### SCHEMES/YOJANAS

SCHEMES / YOJANAS	PURPOSE / Why in News?	MINISTRY / CABINET	DATE
<b>MUKHYAMANTRI YUVA NESTAM</b>	The scheme aims to provide <b>Rs 1000 per month unemployed youth in the state</b>	Launched by the Government of Andhra Pradesh	
<b>KANYASHREE PRAKALPA SCHEME</b>	It is conditional cash transfer scheme aimed to improving status and well-being of girl child by <b>incentivising schooling of teenage girls and delaying their marriages until the age of 18.</b>	Government of West Bengal	
<b>SWADESH DARSHAN SCHEME</b>	The first project under Swadesh Darshan Scheme ‘North East Circuit: Imphal and Khongjom’ was inaugurated in <i>Manipur</i> .	Launched by the Union Tourism Ministry	15 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>RASHTRIYA UCHCHATAR</b>	<b>NITI Aayog has identified 117 districts as “Aspirational</b>	Launched by the Ministry of Human	2013

<b>SHIKSHA ABHIYAN</b>	<b>Districts”</b> for Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)	Resources & Development	
<b>BIJU SWASTHYA KALYAN YOJANA</b>	The Scheme will provide <b>Rs. 5 lakh per family per annum for all Secondary and Tertiary Cashless Health Care Assistance.</b> Women beneficiaries can get health cover upto Rs. 7 lakh.	Launched by the Government of Odisha	15 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>KANTI VELUGU EYE CARE SCHEME</b>	In the ‘KantiVelugu’ eye care scheme, every citizen of Telangana will be entitle <b>to have free eye care viz. free eye screenings, medicines and spectacles and surgeries.</b>	Launched by the Government of Telangana	15 <sup>th</sup> August 2018

### **MILITARY EXERCISES IN AUGUST 2018**

<b>EXERCISE NAME</b>	<b>HELD BETWEEN</b>	<b>TYPE OF EXERCISE</b>	<b>PLACE</b>	<b>DATE</b>
<b>MAITREE 2018</b>	India and Thailand	Joint military exercise	Thailand	6 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>SCO PEACE MISSION 2018</b>	Between all SCO members	Counter Terror Military exercise	Chebarkul, Russia	24 <sup>th</sup> August 2018

### **ROCKETS LAUNCHED IN AUGUST 2018**

<b>SATELLITES / MISSION</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>LAUNCH VEHICLE</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>LAUNCH DATE</b>
<b>GAOFEN-11</b>	China	Long March 4B	It is an Optical Remote Sensing Satellite	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2018



<b>AEOLUS</b>	European Space Agency	Vega Rocket	It is world's first wind-sensing satellite dedicated to map Earth's wind on global scale in particular tropical winds	25 <sup>th</sup> August 2018
<b>GAGANYAAN</b>	India		ISRO has planned to launch the manned space mission "GAGANYAAN"	2022 (Upcoming*)
<b>ICESAT-2</b> (Ice, Cloud and Land Elevation Satellite-2 (ICESat-2) mission)	NASA		ICESat-2's Advanced <b>Topographic Laser Altimeter System (ATLAS)</b> measures height by timing how long it takes individual light photons to travel from the spacecraft to Earth and back.	September 2018 (Upcoming*)

### DEFENCE & SPACE

- 1) **Chandrayaan - 2 Postponed:** Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has postponed Chandrayaan-2, **India's second mission to moon to January 2019**. Chandrayaan-1 mission was launched in 2008. This will be second time mission has been postponed. The ambitious mission was earlier planned to be launched in April 2018 and was later fixed for October 2018. **ISRO also aims to launch 19 missions up to March 2019. These missions include launch of four satellites to accomplish the Digital India programme by providing higher bandwidth for connectivity.**
- 2) **India's 1<sup>st</sup> Biofuel-powered plane:** SpiceJet's aircraft **Bombardier Q400 (VT-SUI) on biofuel from Dehradun to Delhi.**
- 3) **Operation Madad & Operation Sahyog:** Indian Navy has launched Operation Madad, major rescue and relief operation in flood-hit Kerala. **Indian Army also has launched Operation Sahyog to rescue people in flood-hit Kerala**
- 4) **Fateh Mobin:** Iran unveils next generation **short-range ballistic missile.**

- 5) **Barak 8: India and Israel** navy jointly proposed to develop the multipurpose **“BARAK 8”** missile in defence.
- 6) **KOWSAR:** *It is a new domestically-produced fighter jet unveiled recently by Iran.*
- 7) **SAAW:** DRDO has successfully tested indigenously developed **light weight glide bomb Smart Anti Airfield Weapon (SAAW)** dropped from an Indian Air Force aircraft in Pokhran, Rajasthan
- 8) **HELINA: Indigenously developed Helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) “HELINA”** was successfully flight tested from Indian Army Helicopter at Pokhran, Rajasthan
- 9) **OSIRIS-Rex spacecraft:** The OSIRIS-REx spacecraft has begun its final approach towards the big near-Earth asteroid Bennu. **The milestone also marks the official start of OSIRIS-REx’s “asteroid operations” in mission phase.**
- 10) For the first time in India’s only aircraft carrier **INS Vikramaditya will be fitted with marine hydraulic systems “GS-1MF and GS-3”** to boost the air operations of the ship.
- 11) **Xingkong-2:** China has successfully tested its first cutting-edge hypersonic “waverider” flight vehicle (aircraft) Xingkong-2 (Starry Sky-2).

### SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NEW DISCOVERIES	TYPE / PURPOSE	PLACE
<b>WORLD’S FIRST SINGLE-CHROMOSOME YEAST</b>	Brewer’s yeast having 16 chromosomes and which shares its one-third genome ancestry with humans	China
<b>RISECREEK</b>	IIT-Madras develop first indigenous microprocessors under Project Shakti	IIT Madras
<b>AEROGEL</b>	Scientists have developed Aerogel, a transparent heat-resistant super-insulating gel using beer waste.	

<b>UAKITITE</b>	It is a new mineral has been discovered in a meteorite in Eastern Russia	Siberia
<b>WOLBACHIA BACTERIA</b>	Wolbachia is a tiny bacterium that is present in up to <b>60% of all species of insects, including several mosquito species.</b>	Australia

- 1) **INDIAN HUMANOID ROBOT:** Indian version of humanoid robot Sophia was made and is named as **“Rashmi”**. Rashmi can speak Hindi, Bhojpuri and Marathi along with English.
- 2) **Niryat Mitra App:** Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry has launched Niryat Mitra mobile application **for exporters and importers of the country.**
- 3) **NETA app:** National Electoral Transformation (NETA) mobile application that allows voters **to rate and review their political representatives launched by former president of India Pranab Mukherjee**
- 4) **India’s 1<sup>st</sup> Genetic resource bank:** *National Wildlife Genetic Resource Bank* was inaugurated at Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology’s Laboratory of Conservation of Endangered Species facility in **Hyderabad, Telangana**
- 5) **Freedom Baby:** India’s 1<sup>st</sup> captive-born **Humboldt Penguin** named Freedom Baby died.
- 6) **HIGGS BOSON:** Six years after its discovery, the Higgs boson has at last been observed decaying into **fundamental particles known as “bottom quarks”.**
- 7) **SPITZER TELESCOPE:** NASA’s Spitzer Space Telescope, **the youngest member of the “Great Observatory” programme, has completed 15 years in space.** Launched into orbit on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2003.

## ECONOMICS

- 1) **FALLING RUPEE:** The rupee has registered a loss of about **10%** and a **record low of 71** of its value against the dollar since the beginning of the year making it the **worst-performing currency in Asia.**

- 2) **BIS to set standards for the services sector:** The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has constituted *the process to set new standards to measure quality of services offered to consumers across different sectors, including telecom, aviation, e-commerce and healthcare.*
- 3) **B SESIKERAN COMMITTEE:** FSSAI has constituted three-member committee to look into draft food labelling and display regulations-**Food Safety and Standards (Labelling and Display) Regulations 2018.**
- 4) **5G steering committee: AJ Paulraj committee-** 5G Steering committee has proposed promulgation of *key norms on regulatory matters in order to facilitate early deployment of 5G technology*
- 5) **Ease of Living Index:** Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs released the report that *Pune from Maharashtra ranked as 1<sup>st</sup> position and Chennai ranked in 14<sup>th</sup> position.*
- 6) **Global Liveability Index 2018:** Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) has released the report that *Vienna, Austria ranked as 1<sup>st</sup> position and from India: Delhi ranked as 112<sup>th</sup> position & Mumbai ranked as 117<sup>th</sup> position.*
- 7) **NITI AAYOG LAUNCHES “PITCH TO MOVE”:** NITI Aayog has launched “Pitch to MOVE” aims *to provide budding entrepreneurs of India a unique opportunity to pitch their business ideas to a distinguished jury.*
- 8) **Single Revenue Act: Odisha government** has proposed to come up with a single revenue act by merging various revenue laws enacted at different point in times.
- 9) **State Energy Efficiency preparedness index:** Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE) **examines states policies and regulations, financing mechanisms, institutional capacity, adoption of energy efficiency measures and energy savings achieved.**
- 10) **NATIONAL ENERGY STORAGE MISSION:** The objective of the mission is to strive for leadership in energy storage sector *by creating an enabling policy and regulatory framework that encourages manufacturing, deployment, innovation and further cost reduction.*



- 11) **Marketer of the Year award:** Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd., the marketers of the popular “**Amul brand**” of milk and dairy products, was awarded the “**Marketer of the Year**” award by the International Advertising Association of India (IAAI).
- 12) **United Nation’s E-Government Development Index (EGDI) 2018:** India was ranked 118 in 2014 and 96 in 2018. Denmark Ranked top in the Index.

### AWARDS

AWARDS / PRIZES	PERSON / ORGANIZATION
<b>LEGION OF MERIT (DEGREE OF COMMANDER)</b>	Former Army General “ <b>Dalbir Singh Suhag</b> ” awarded Legion of Merit by US Government  (2 <sup>nd</sup> Indian to honour this award; 1 <sup>st</sup> Indian was Rajendra Singhji Jadeja in 1946)
<b>INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHY BEE AWARD</b>	Avi Goel
<b>WHO WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY 2017 AWARD</b>	S K Arora
<b>RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL SADBHAVANA AWARD</b>	Former West Bengal Governor <b>Gopal krishna Gandhi</b>
<b>FIELDS MEDAL</b>	“ <b>Akshay Venkatesh</b> ” from India won the Fields Medal for Mathematics
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> BRICS FILM FESTIVAL AWARD in Durban, South Africa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Best Actress:</b> Bhanita Das, Village Rockstars</li> <li>➤ <b>Best Film:</b> Newton by Amit Masurkar</li> <li>➤ <b>Special Jury Award:</b> Village Rockstars by Rima Das</li> </ul>

## APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS

1) **State's New Governors:**

STATE	GOVERNOR
JAMMU & KASHMIR	Sathyapal Malik
BIHAR	Lalji Tandon
HARYANA	Sathyadev Narayanan Arya
TRIPURA	Kaptan Singh Solanki
UTTARAKHAND	Baby Rani Maurya
MEGHALAYA	Tathagata Roy
SIKKIM	Ganga Prasad
CHHATTISGARH	Anandiben Patel (currently serving in Madhya Pradesh & took additional charge in Chhattisgarh)

- 2) **Emmerson Mnangagwa** was elected as the **new President of Zimbabwe**.
- 3) **Harivansh Narayan Singh** has been elected as **the new deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha under Article 89 of the Constitution**
- 4) **Rekha Sharma** was appointed as the **Chairperson of National Commission for Women**
- 5) **Ashish Kumar Bhutani** was appointed as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**.
- 6) **Dr. G Satheesh Reddy** was appointed as **Secretary of Department of Defence R&D (DDR&D) and Chairman of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**
- 7) **Satya S Tripathi**, an Indian development economist and lawyer, has been appointed **assistant secretary general of the United Nations and will head the New York office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**.

- 8) **Nandula Raghuram** has been elected as the Chairman of the **International Nitrogen Initiative (INI)**, a global policy making initiative. He is ***the first Indian and Asian to be elected to the Chair of INI.***
- 9) **Rosario Manalo:** The Myanmar Government has appointed an independent 4- member commission ***to investigate alleged human rights abuses against the ethnic Rohingya minority***
- 10) **Michelle Bachelet**, the former two-time President of Chile, has been officially ***appointed as the new UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.***
- 11) Film Actor **Akshay Kumar** has been appointed the ***brand ambassador for Government of India (GoI)'s special road safety awareness campaign.***

### BOOKS & AUTHORS

- 1) **Book:** “281 and Beyond” is the autobiography of veteran cricketer VVS Laxman.
- 2) **Book:** “No Spin” is the autobiography of renowned Australian bowler Shane Warne.

### SPORTS

- 1) **PV Sindhu** 7<sup>th</sup> in Forbes list of highest paid women sportspersons. Serena Williams was top in the Forbes list.
- 2) **Heartbeats for Hockey:** The Government of Odisha has launched a **360 degree nation-wide publicity campaign “Heartbeats for Hockey”** to attract fans for 2018 men’s hockey World cup.
- 3) **World Badminton Championships 2018:** Indian shuttler P V Sindhu won the **silver medal** at World Championships 2018 **and Carolina Marin of the Spain won the Gold Medal** held at Nanjing, China.
- 4) **Tokyo 2020:** 1<sup>st</sup> Olympics to deploy facial recognition technology to increase security around all venues.

- 5) **UCI Junior Track Cycling World Championships:** Indian Teen cyclist **EsowAlben (17)** has won the **silver medal** in the Junior Track Cycling World Championships.
- 6) **South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-15 Women's Championship:** **India** won South Asian Football Federation Under-15 Women's Championship in the final match held in Thimpu, Bhutan against Bangladesh.
- 7) The **International Army Games 2018** are being held at 24 training grounds in seven countries namely **Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Iran, Kazakhstan, China and Russia** from 28<sup>th</sup> July to 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2018
- 8) **Ramesh Powar**, the former Indian off-spinner, has been appointed the head coach of the Indian Women's National Cricket team on an interim basis
- 9) **18<sup>th</sup> Asian Games (August 18 – September 2):**
  - 18<sup>th</sup> edition of Asian Games was inaugurated in Jakarta, Indonesia. The event was held in Jakarta (capital of Indonesia) and Palembang (capital of Indonesia's province of South Sumatra)
  - This will be the first time that the Asian Games will be held in two cities – Jakarta and Palembang.
  - Neeraj Chopra was India's flag-bearer at opening ceremony & Rani Rampal was India's flag-bearer at closing ceremony.
  - For the first time, eSports, a form of competition using video games, and canoe polo will be contested as demonstration sports.
  - This will be the second time that Indonesia hosts the Asian Games.

<b>WRESTLING</b>	Bajrang Punia – 65 kg ( <b>India's 1<sup>st</sup> gold medal at the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of the Asian Games</b> )
	VineshPhogat – 50 kg ( <b>1<sup>st</sup> Indian women athlete to win gold medal</b> )
<b>SHOOTING</b>	Saurabh Chaudhary – <b>Won Gold in Men's 10m Air Pistol event</b>
	RahiSarnobat– <b>1<sup>st</sup> Indian woman to win shooting gold medal in 25m pistol event.</b>



<b>TENNIS</b>	Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan - <b>won gold medal in Men's Doubles tennis at 2018 Asian Games.</b>
<b>SHOTPUT</b>	Tejinder Pal Singh Toor - <b>won Gold medal in men's shot put final</b>
<b>TRIPLE JUMP EVENT</b>	Arpinder Singh - <b>won gold medal in Men's Triple Jump event</b>
<b>HEPTATHLON ATHLETICS EVENT</b>	Swapna Barman - <b>won gold medal in women's Heptathlon Athletics event</b>
<b>ATHLETE</b>	Jinson Johnson - <b>won clinched gold in men's 1500m race</b>

### IMPORTANT DAYS

<b>DAYS</b>	<b>EVENTS</b>	<b>THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE</b>
<b>August 1</b>	Earth Overshoot Day	It is date when humanity annual demand on nature exceeds what Earth can regenerate over the entire year.
<b>August 2</b>	141 <sup>st</sup> Birthday of Pingali Venkayya	He was the freedom fighter and designer of an Indian National Flag
<b>August 7</b>	National Handloom Day	The first National Handloom Day was inaugurated on 7 August 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Chennai, Tamil Nadu
<b>August 9</b>	International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples	"Indigenous people Migration and Movement"
<b>August 10</b>	World Biofuel Day	The day is to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels i.e. Green Fuels or Bio-fuels an alternative to conventional fossil fuels
<b>August 12</b>	World Elephant Day	The day is to create awareness of urgent plight of African and Asian elephants
	International Youth Day	"Safe Spaces for Youth"

**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>August 13</b>	World Organ Donation Day	The day is to encourage people to donate their precious organs.
<b>August 19</b>	World Humanitarian Day	"#NotATarget"
	World Photography Day	The day is to encourage photographers across the world.
<b>August 20</b>	World Mosquito Day	To create an awareness to prevent and also to fundraise for research into the cure of malaria
<b>August 21</b>	World Senior Citizen Day	To create an awareness of the condition of elder people and support them through the process of senescence
<b>August 23</b>	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition	The day designated by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to memorialize the transatlantic slave trade.
<b>August 29</b>	National Sports Day	The day was observed to mark the birth anniversary of the legendary hockey player Major Dhyan Chand who

**(World Breastfeeding Week 1<sup>st</sup> August – 7<sup>th</sup> August\*)**