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JANUARY – 2018

- ❖ E - Governance policy – 2017 - enable public, government and commercial establishments get all it's government services through digital mode.
- ❖ 171st Araadhanai Music Festival begins in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Two TN police stations in country's top 5 list - K4 Anna Nagar Police Station in Chennai has been ranked the fifth-best in the whole of India.
- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has commissioned Charlie-435 - patrol vessel at Karaikal in the Union Territory of Puducherry.
- ❖ Masha Nazeem from nagercoil receives the prestigious National Youth Award for her contributions to science and technology.
- ❖ For the first time, Tamil Nadu will host Defence Expo 2018, an international exhibition on Defence, in April.
- ❖ Udangudi Power Project - Thoothukudi district of southern Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Ministry of Women & Child Development has launched an online portal NARI for women empowerment.
- ❖ e-Samvad is an online portal to provide a platform for NGOs and Civil Societies to interact with the Ministry of Women & Child Development related to Women & Child Development.
- ❖ Zojila Tunnel - Jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ Jal Marg Vikas Project – capacity augmentation of navigation on National Waterway-1.
- ❖ The government has announced the launch of cleanliness survey 'The Swachh.
- ❖ Survekshan' for 2018 as part of Swachh Bharat Mission.
- ❖ The 18th All India Whips' Conference was held at Udaipur, Rajasthan.
- ❖ The Union Defence Ministry has sanctioned raising of Territorial Army (TA) battalion. comprising ex-servicemen of Indian Army as part of its mission to clean the Ganga by 2020.
- ❖ 4th international Dharma-Dhamma Conference - Rajgir, Bihar
- ❖ Indian Navy has decommissioned INS Nirghat and INS Nirbhik warships.
- ❖ India's 1st coal-to-gas conversion plant – Gail – Odisha.
- ❖ The third edition Raisina Dialogue was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Vajra Prahar - The Indo-US joint military exercise.
- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Japan Coast Guard (JCG) undertook a joint search and rescue exercise, 'SAREX-18.
- ❖ iCREATE - The Prime Minister of India and his Israeli counterpart Benjamin





Netanyahu inaugurated - independent centre to promote 'Start-up India' scheme.

- ❖ Orange colored passports for unskilled labours - The Ministry of External Affairs.
- ❖ The Union govt. has decided to set up a Cyber Warrior Police Force (CWPF) to tackle internet-related crimes.
- ❖ India has joined the 42-member Australia Group, an elite export control regime against spread of chemical and biological weapons.
- ❖ "Bharat ke Veer" is an online portal in which any person can make fiscal contributions to assist the families of martyrs of the Central Armed Police Forces.
- ❖ The Union government has decided to declare 2018 as the 'National Year of Millets'.
- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Election commissioner Om.
- ❖ Prakash Rawat as new Chief Election Commissioner.
- ❖ Coast Guard patrol vessel-Vijaya.



- ❖ India hosted the first International Dam Safety Conference 2018 at Thiruvananthapuram on January 23-24.
- ❖ The 'Bharat Parv' is an event organized annually at Red Fort, Delhi from 26th to 31st January to commemorate Republic day.

- ❖ Bharat Biotech's diarrhea vaccine ROTAVAC gets World Health Organization (WHO) pre-qualification.
- ❖ The ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit was held in New Delhi to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of sectoral dialogue between two sides.
- ❖ Union Information Technology and Electronics Ministry has launched Stree Swabhiman Initiative to maintain Women's health and Hygiene.
- ❖ The National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI) has recommended the introduction of HPV vaccine in the UIP.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have introduced the Value Added Tax (VAT) for the first time.
- ❖ China has established an underwater surveillance network which will help its navy track target vessels more accurately.
- ❖ Israel withdraws from UNESCO.
- ❖ UN Security Council – non - permanent members - Equatorial Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kuwait, Peru, Poland and the Netherlands.
- ❖ The People's Liberation Army Navy commissioned a new missile frigate, named "Rizhao".
- ❖ World's 1st rescue mission with unmanned aircraft - Australian lifeguard services.
- ❖ Maitre-2 - to give a boost to the trans-border relationship between India and Bangladesh.
- ❖ The World Economic Forum has launched a new Global Centre for



Cybersecurity to safeguard the world from hackers and growing data breaches.

- ❖ The fifth edition of the Global Talent Competitiveness Index has been released by INSEAD.
- ❖ The first ever India-Vietnam Bilateral Army Exercise (VINBAX-2018) was conducted at Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India has initiated 'prompt corrective action' (PCA) against Allahabad Bank over its high bad loans.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Finance and Corporate Affairs launched the National CSR Data Portal & Corporate Data Portal.
- ❖ India has been ranked 62 out of 74 emerging economies in the Inclusive Development Index 2018 released by the World Economic Forum.
- ❖ NASA's Parker Solar Probe is scheduled for launch in 2018 to explore the Sun's outer atmosphere.



- ❖ Pratyush – India's fastest supercomputer.
- ❖ Ministry of Railway launches SFOORTI (Smart Freight Operation Optimisation & Real Time Information) application.
- ❖ 100th satellite of ISRO - The 42nd Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), PSLV-C40, was launched successfully by ISRO.
- ❖ Super Blood Blue Moon - Jan 31,2018.

- ❖ SARAS PT1N, the new upgraded version of indigenous transport aircraft. SARAS developed by National Aeronautics Laboratory.
- ❖ Night frog species in Western Ghats.



- ❖ New species of blind fish discovered inside Meghalaya cave.
- ❖ New moth species - Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ Wildlife Conservation Trust (WCT) a wildlife NGO has developed a mobile app called Road Kills.
- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh has become the second state in the Northeast (after Sikkim) to achieve open defecation free (ODF) status.
- ❖ The entire Nagaland has been declared as "disturbed area" for six more months, till June- end.
- ❖ New AIIMS at Bilaspur.
- ❖ West Bengal Government has unveiled the official emblem of the state Government.
- ❖ Flamingo festival – Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ 2022 National Games – Meghalaya.
- ❖ The union government is likely to declare Medaram's Sammakka - Sarakka/Saralamma Jatara a national festival this year.
- ❖ The state government has launched a water ATM project to provide bacteriafree drinking water in schools.



- ❖ The Ministry of Culture organized the 7th edition of the Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat matrix in Karnataka.
- ❖ Rajasthan's first oil refinery – Barmer.
- ❖ Odisha Government has launched Mukhyamantri Kalakar Sahayata Yojana to provide financial assistance to the literature and cultural artists of state.
- ❖ India's first automatic Early Warning Dissemination System (EWDS) will be commissioned by March 2018 in Odisha.
- ❖ The state government has launched Odisha e-Hospital Management Information System to provide efficient and hassle-free health services to the public.
- ❖ 24X7 forest helpline number- Maharashtra.
- ❖ Floating market – Kolkata.



- ❖ The Raipur Municipal Corporation in Chhattisgarh has organised the first garbage festival in nation.
- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh - World War II Memorial Museum.

- ❖ Asia's largest drip irrigation project - Ramthal Marola project has been implemented in Karnataka.
- ❖ Himachal Pradesh Government has launched Zero Budget Natural Farming project to promote organic farming.
- ❖ Punjab Government has launched Mahatma Gandhi Sarbat Vikas Yojna for the welfare of the distressed sections of the society across the state.
- ❖ Deputy NSA - Rajinder Khanna.
- ❖ The 10th edition of Global Forum for Food & Agriculture was held in Berlin, Germany.
- ❖ Anandiben Patel Appointed Madhya Pradesh Governor.
- ❖ 2018 World's most admired company – Apple.
- ❖ Blind Cricket World Cup 2018 - India beat the Pakistan.
- ❖ Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports launched the PLEDGE for Khelo India at the Khelo India School Games Carnival in Delhi.
- ❖ Bhima Koregaon Battle - January 1818.
- ❖ The World Economic Forum (WEF) has ranked India at 30th position on a global manufacturing index.
- ❖ Journalists and social activists celebrated Hicky's Day paying tributes to the fighter-journalist James Augustus Hicky.



FEBRUARY – 2018

- ❖ Tamilnadu State government has decided to observe the birth anniversary of Omandur P. Ramaswami Reddiar as a government function for the first time.
- ❖ Cauvery water dispute verdict - reduced the allocation of water from Karnataka to Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Satyabrata Sahoo has been named the next Chief Electoral Officer for Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Tamizhaga Marakkalanjiyam - a mobile phone application to provide information about tress and silviculture.
- ❖ Indian Navy has launched its third Scorpene class submarine INS Karanj.
- ❖ The Ministry of Commerce & Industry has launched third version of the Government e-Marketplace (GeM 3.0).
- ❖ India ranked at 42nd among 165 independent states on annual 2017 Global Democracy Index.
- ❖ The 7th edition of India Energy Congress (IEC) 2018 was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The First ever International Kala Mela Festival is held at New Delhi.
- ❖ 5th South Asia Region Public Procurement Conference held at New Delhi Recently.
- ❖ The Union Government has announced to launch Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahaabhiyan (KUSUM) Scheme to encourage farmers for solar farming.



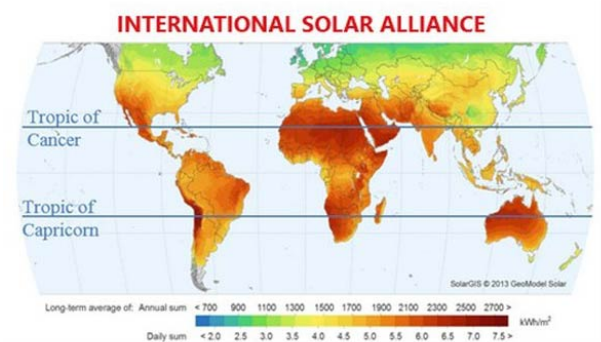
- ❖ The Eastern Naval Command Operational Readiness Exercise (ENCORE), Theatre Level Readiness and Operational Exercise has been concluded recently.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal for ratification of Minamata Convention on Mercury.
- ❖ India has been ranked 44 out of 50 nations in the latest international Intellectual Property index.
- ❖ NITI Aayog has released a comprehensive Health Index report titled, "Healthy States, Progressive India".
- ❖ INS Garuda has been upgraded with 'Integrated Automatic Aviation Meteorological System (IAAMS)'.
❖ The sixth edition of 'Hunar Haat' was held at New Delhi. Hunar Haat' is a platform made available by the government for artisans from minority communities to showcase and sell their works.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved implementation of the 'Prime Minister's Research Fellows (PMRF) Scheme' for a period of seven years beginning from Financial Year 2018-19.
- ❖ First Hindu temple in Abu Dhabi - PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone.



- ❖ India's first online radio station "Radio Umang" was launched on World Radio Day (Feb 13) 2018.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has released India's first ever Highway Capacity Manual.
- ❖ India's access to strategic Duqm port - India and Oman have signed an annexure to the Memorandum of Understanding on Military Cooperation.
- ❖ 8th Global Theatre Olympics is scheduled to organize in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has extended the Anti-Narcotics Scheme for 3 more years to combat illicit trafficking in drugs and psychotropic substances.
- ❖ India's Aadhaar and Umang App have won awards at recently concluded 6th World Government Summit 2018 in Dubai.
- ❖ First Edition of World Sustainable Development Summit is scheduled to be conducted in New Delhi.
- ❖ The Centre has formulated an ambitious water conservation scheme named Atal Bhujal Yojana (ABY) to tackle depletion groundwater level.
- ❖ Lok Sabha Speaker, Sumitra Mahajan inaugurated the 6th India region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association conference at Patna in Bihar.
- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs had recently organized Youth Exchange Programme- Watan Ko Jano programme. It aims to give exposure to youth and children of J&K about the cultural and socio-economic development taking place in other parts of country.



- ❖ A special task force (STF) of the Indian Army and the Indonesian Army began its sixth Garuda Shakti exercise at Bandung in Indonesia.
- ❖ First woman fighter pilot to undertake solo flight in MiG-21 - Avani Chaturvedi.
- ❖ India has been ranked 81st in the global corruption perception index for 2017.
- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard ship "Vajra" – Decommissioned.
- ❖ India successfully test-fired the nuclear-capable 'Dhanush' ballistic missile with a strike range of 350 kms.
- ❖ India will host the first International Solar Alliance (ISA) Summit on March 11, 2018 in New Delhi.



- ❖ Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has now introduced a blue coloured 'Baal Aadhaar' card for children below the age of 5 years.
- ❖ The Indian Navy is going to host 16 countries for multi-national 2018 MILAN exercise at Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar.
- ❖ Tribunal to settle Mahanadi water dispute - Odisha and Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched 'Ombudsman Scheme' for non-banking financial companies.



- ❖ India has contributed an additional \$1 million to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund earmarked for South-South cooperation.
- ❖ India's Neighbour Sri Lanka has celebrated its 70th Independence Day on 4th February.
- ❖ Rwanda has become the first low-income country to provide universal eye care to its Citizens.
- ❖ Maldivian President Abdulla Yameen has declared a 15-day state of emergency in the island nation.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia's National Heritage Festival – Janadriyah.
- ❖ China has commissioned its new generation J-20 fourth-generation stealth fighter into combat service.
- ❖ UN refugee programme - withdrawal of Tanzania.
- ❖ China will host 2018 Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit at Qingdao.



- ❖ South African Government has declared the Ever worst ongoing drought as a “National disaster”.

- ❖ KP Sharma Oli sworn as Nepal's new prime minister for the second time.
- ❖ The 54th Munich Security Conference (MSC-2018) was held in Munich, Germany from February 16-18.
- ❖ New President of South Africa - Cyril Ramaphosa.
- ❖ Singapore will impose a 'carbon tax' from 2019 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- ❖ The Golden Jubilee of the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between India and Bhutan is being celebrated in the year 2018.
- ❖ Virtual currency- Venezuela.
- ❖ The annual multi-national military exercise code named Cobra Gold was held in Thailand's Chonburi province.
- ❖ The government has re-introduced LTCG tax on equity shares.
- ❖ RBI panel for bad loan monitoring, rising cases of frauds, audits - Y H Malegam.
- ❖ Ministry of Earth Science has installed a High Performance Computer (HPC) System called Mihir.
- ❖ World's smallest rocket – Japan.
- ❖ India has successfully test-fired its indigenously developed nuclear capable Prithvi-II missile.
- ❖ Scientists from New York have reported discovery of a new class of antibiotics called malacidins.
- ❖ e-Saathi - Through the app, people will be able to avail public services sitting at home.
- ❖ The Maharashtra government has approved Ghodazari in Chandrapur district as a new wildlife sanctuary in the state.



- ❖ The Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has launched Green Good Deeds campaign in New Delhi.
- ❖ The 'Pelican Bird Festival-2018' was held for first in Atapaka Bird Sanctuary at Kolleru lake in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Floating Treatment 'Island' - Neknampur Lake.
- ❖ A Rhododendron park is being established in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ Scientists have discovered three new species of eel along the northern Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ Regional Centre for Agriculture – Mizoram.
- ❖ New plant species - West Bengal.
- ❖ Karnataka declared first otter conservation reserve, 34 km along the Tungabhadra, which stretches from from Mudlapura village to Kampli in Ballari district.
- ❖ Olive Ridleys – Rushikulya.



- ❖ Odisha has bagged Geospatial World Excellence Award-2018 in the Geospatial World Forum Meeting held at Hyderabad.
- ❖ Assam's first Global Investors' Summit.
- ❖ The Maharashtra government has decided to set up a Transgender Welfare Board to

protect their Constitutional and human rights.

- ❖ The annual 32nd Surajkund International Crafts Mela held at Surajkund in Haryana.
- ❖ 88th Mahamastakabhisheka (head anointing ceremony) of the monolithic statue of Lord Bahubali has begun at Shravanabelagola, Karnataka.
- ❖ Uttar Pradesh State Government, in association with United Nations Children's Fund has launched 'DASTAK'.
- ❖ To connect with the youth on social media, the Maharashtra government launched an initiative called 'Social Media — Maha Mitra'.
- ❖ 21st Indian Birding Fair begins at Jaipur.
- ❖ Justice Abhilasha Kumari was sworn-in as new Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur.
- ❖ West Bengal has become the first state in the country to opt out of 'Modicare', ambitious healthcare insurance plan.
- ❖ Recently "Friendship Gate" has been inaugurated at India- Bangladesh Border in Meghalaya.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh's first butterfly park has inaugurated at Gopalpur in Raisen district.
- ❖ Maharashtra State government is planning set an India's first institute for artificial intelligence (AI) in Mumbai.
- ❖ The National Banana Festival (NBF) 2018 from 17 to 21 February at Kalliyoor, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- ❖ The Goa government has launched a motorcycle ambulance service.



- ❖ The 44th Khajuraho Dance Festival 2018 has begun at the temple town in Chhatarpur district on February 20.
- ❖ The Kerala government in its new health policy, has proposed that vaccination cards mandatory for children seeking admission in first standard.
- ❖ The Assam government will be observing September 22 as Rhino Day.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has approved 'one district, one product' scheme to promote products indigenous to every district.



ONE DISTRICT
ONE PRODUCT
YOJANA UTTAR
PRADESH



- ❖ Grand Master Vedit Gujrathi has been appointed as the brand ambassador of All India Chess Federation for the Blind (AICFB).
- ❖ India's veteran pacer Jhulan Goswami became the first female cricketer to take 200 ODI wickets.
- ❖ The first (inaugural) edition of Khelo India School Games (KISG) was held from 31st January to 8th February, 2018 at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium.
- ❖ Indian cricket team members Ajinkya Rahane and Rohit Sharma have both been awarded Shiv Chhatrapati State Sports Awards by the Government of Maharashtra.
- ❖ Cyber Security campaign – Google.
- ❖ World's busiest international airport - Dubai International Airport.
- ❖ "Swachh Bharat Sanitation Park" inaugurated in Delhi.

MARCH-2018

- ❖ Phirangi puram is all set to become Andhra Pradesh's first all-women rail station.
 - ❖ Bhoodan Board – Reconstituted.
 - ❖ Insect museum inaugurated in Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) .
 - ❖ 21st National Conference on e-Governance was held in Hyderabad.
 - ❖ The world's largest solar park Shakti Sthala was inaugurated in Karnataka.
 - ❖ India hosted the first International Solar Alliance (ISA) summit in New Delhi.
 - ❖ The Union Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers has launched 'Suvidha', a 100% Oxo-biodegradable Sanitary Napkin, under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).
 - ❖ Diu has become the first and only Union Territory in the country to be fully run on solar energy.
 - ❖ India for the first time has started process of importing Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) from United States.
 - ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated 105th session of Indian Science Congress (ISC) at Manipur Central University in Imphal.
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- ❖ The National Cultural Audio-Visual Archives (NCAA) project of Ministry of Culture was certified as world's first Trusted Digital Repository as per ISO 16363:2012 standard.
 - ❖ INS Ganga, an indigenously built frigate of the Indian Navy, was decommissioned after over three decades of service.
 - ❖ The first-ever International Exhibition of Graphic Prints 'Print Biennale India 2018' was held in Lalit Kala Akademi.
 - ❖ Japan has chosen two futuristic fox-like creatures with "supernatural" powers as its mascots for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games.
 - ❖ The China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation (CSIC) has announced to build its first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Liaoning.
 - ❖ India, Bangladesh and Russia have signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding for cooperation in the construction of the Rooppur nuclear power plant in Bangladesh.
 - ❖ The Marshall Islands, a Pacific island nation has become the first country in the world to recognise acrypto currency or digital currency as its legal tender.
 - ❖ China has passed a historic constitutional amendment to formally remove the term limits to enable President Xi to stay on as the Chinese president beyond 2023.
 - ❖ Nepal's first woman President Bidya Devi Bhandari was re-elected for second term in Nepal President office.
 - ❖ The Revenue Department in the Finance Ministry has imposed anti-dumping duty on import of 'Ofloxacin'.



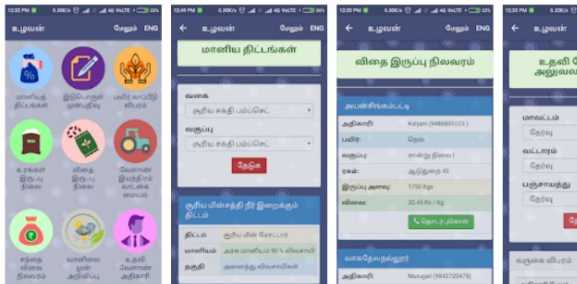
- ❖ India successfully test-fired the DRDO developed Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) Nag in desert conditions.
- ❖ Researchers have developed silver copper telluride (AgCuTe), a novel compound that exhibits poor thermal conductivity in the 25 °C to 425 °C range but shows good electrical conductivity.
- ❖ Scientists using Kepler 2 telescope have discovered hot, metallic, Earth-sized planet named K2-229b.



- ❖ The Odisha government has launched a scheme 'Khushi' to provide free sanitary pads to 17 lakh girl students across the state.
- ❖ India's first helicopter taxi service was launched in Bengaluru to fly passengers from Kempe Gowda International Airport to Electronic City.
- ❖ The Institute of Bio resources and Sustainable Laboratory (IBSD), Imphal has set up a floating laboratory in northeast India's largest freshwater lake, Loktak.
- ❖ Haryana's first cyber police station was inaugurated in Gurugram.
- ❖ The state cabinet of Karnataka has decided to recognise Lingayat as a 'religious minority' and include the Veerashaivas who follow Basavanna as a group within the community.
- ❖ The world's longest sandstone cave named Krem Puri was recently discovered in Meghalaya.
- ❖ Twenty-time tennis grand slam champion Roger Federer has won the 2018 Laureus World Sportsman of the Year and Comeback of the Year awards.
- ❖ 90th Academy Awards (Oscars 2018)
 - Best Picture – The Shape of Water
 - Best Director - Guillermo del Toro, The Shape of Water.
- ❖ Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi became the first Indian to receive the Pritzker Prize also dubbed as 'Architecture Nobel'.
- ❖ Renowned British theoretical physicist and cosmologist Stephen Hawking has passed away at the age of 76.
- ❖ Canadian mathematician Robert Langlands won the prestigious Abel Prize.
- ❖ Afghanistan's leg-spinner Rashid Khan has become the youngest captain in the history of international cricket.
- ❖ Indian para-athlete Deepa Malik won a gold medal in the F-53/54 category javelin event at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix in Dubai.
- ❖ Ranji Trophy winners (2018) Vidarbha won their second title in the domestic cricket season by winning the Irani Cup.
- ❖ Manu Bhaker secured gold in individual 10m Air Pistol at the ISSF (International Shooting Sports Federation) Junior World Cup in Sydney.
- ❖ Teenaged Afghanistan leg spinner Rashid Khan has become the fastest bowler to the milestone of 100 ODI wickets.

APRIL – 2018

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has launched Amma Free Wi-Fi zones in five cities of the state.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Government launched bi-lingual ‘Uzhavan’ (farmer) mobile application to use technology for benefit of farmers.



- ❖ According to the Mercer's 20th Quality of Living Ranking 2018, Hyderabad and Pune have been jointly ranked at 142, making the best Indian cities to live in among the list of 450 cities around the world.
- ❖ Government is going to launch Swachh Bharat Summer Internship (SBSI) 2018 aimed at engaging college youth with Swachhata work in villages in coming Summer vacation.
- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is planning to relax the protected area permit (PAP) regime to enable foreign tourists to access border areas. However, citizens from Pakistan and China are unlikely to be given these relaxations.
- ❖ The NITI Aayog launched the baseline ranking for 101 aspirational districts based on 49 indicators across several sectors.
- ❖ The first National Conclave on Psychological Trauma, Child Protection, and Mental Illnesses held in New Delhi.

- ❖ The Ministry of Human Resource Development has sanctioned Rs. 1000 crore for Phase II of Impacting Research Innovation and Technology (IMPRINT) India programme to boost research and innovation in the country.
- ❖ National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), New Delhi under the Ministry of Textiles is going to conduct National Sizing Survey dubbed as Size India.
- ❖ India, South Korea joint anti-piracy, search and rescue exercise ‘Sahyog-Hyeoblyeog 2018’ was conducted in the Bay of Bengal off the Chennai.
- ❖ Indian Navy conducted multi-agency humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) exercise named ‘Chakravat’ meaning ‘cyclone’ off the Kochi Coast.
- ❖ The Global Logistics Summit (GLS-2018) was held in New Delhi from April 5-6, 2018 to improve logistics and connectivity.
- ❖ Indian Air Force (IAF) is going to conduct Exercise Gaganshakti 2018.
- ❖ The Union Government will launch GOBARdhan (Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources) Yojana, a central government scheme.
- ❖ The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) launched ‘Project Dhoop’ to address rising incidence of Vitamin D deficiencies (VDD), particularly amongst the young people.



PROJECT DHOOP



Vitamin-D

- ❖ The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has approved the establishment of the first multipurpose “Van Dhan Vikas Kendra” for socio-economic development of tribals living in forests.
- ❖ The first meeting of newly constituted ‘NITI Aayog Forum for North East’ was held in Agartala, Tripura.
- ❖ The Army Commanders’ Conference, chaired by Army Chief General Bipin Rawat, has started recently in New Delhi.
- ❖ India Mobile Congress (IMC-2018) will be held in New Delhi on October 25-27, 2018.
- ❖ Union Home Ministry has launched the web-based application e-FRRO (e-Foreigners Regional Registration Office) scheme aimed at providing fast and efficient visa-related services online to visitors to India.
- ❖ The India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018 was hosted by Ministry of External Affairs held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The 10th edition of Defexpo India, a biennial exhibition on Land, Naval and Internal Homeland Security Systems, concluded at Thiruvadanthai in Kancheepuram district.
- ❖ The National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE) under Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has issued Expression of Interest (EoI) for first offshore wind energy project in India.
- ❖ PM inaugurated the first Health and Wellness Centre in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh to mark the launch of Ayushman Bharat Yojana - National Health Protection Mission.
- ❖ NITI Aayog will start ranking states on the nutrition parameter under the government-run Poshan Abhiyaan.
- ❖ The first International SME (Small, Medium Enterprises) convention was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Coastal security exercise ‘Sagar Kavach’ to strengthen the coastal security and to assess coastal security mechanism was held along Kerala coast.
- ❖ Bilateral joint training exercise HARIMAU SHAKTI 2018 between India and Malaysia will be conducted in the dense forests of Sengai Perdik, Hulu Langat, Malaysia
- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved restructured National Bamboo Mission during the remaining period of 14th Finance Commission (2018-20).
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved promulgation of Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance to provide death penalty for rapists of girls below 12 years.
- ❖ Justice Rajesh Bindal committee - legal issues related to inter country removal & retention of children and its recommendations to the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- ❖ e-Vidhan is a project to digitize and make the functioning of State Legislatures in India paperless.
- ❖ e-Sanad is aimed at online verification of the documents



- ❖ Naval base (Assumption island in Seychelles) - India's proposal
- ❖ NASA – InSight Mission - to study Mars deep interior and find traces of how it was formed.
- ❖ China has successfully launched a pair of twin Beidou-3MEO satellites – Beidou-30 and Beidou-31 –into space.
- ❖ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Malaysia concluded joint military exercise “Desert Tiger 5” in Dubai, UAE.
- ❖ Nepal will host an international conference to address the issues relating to human rights and impunity in South Asia.
- ❖ Tiangong-1 was China's first prototype space station or space laboratory.



- ❖ Former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon was elected as Chairman of Boao Forum for Asia.
- ❖ BABUR Missile – Pakistan
- ❖ The 29th Arab League Summit 2018 held in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia
- ❖ Turkey's first nuclear power plant - Mediterranean Mersin region
- ❖ President of Sierra Leone - Julius Maada Bio
- ❖ The Cabinet of United Arab Emirates (UAE) has approved the issuance of law

on Equal Wages and Salaries for men and women.

- ❖ Soft Drinks Sugar tax – UK.
- ❖ United Nations has launched UN Road Safety Trust Fund to improve road safety worldwide.
- ❖ Indian Prime Minister and 52 other heads of government attended the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting or CHOGM meeting in London.
- ❖ India failed to participate in the Malaria Summit in London.
- ❖ 350th birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh - Coins Release (Rs 350).



- ❖ The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) celebrated its foundation day this year on April 2, 2018.
- ❖ Jana Small Finance Bank - to unbanked rural areas (Janalakshmi Financial Services).
- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation successfully launched GSAT 6A communication satellite on board of GSLV-F08 rocket from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Union Minister of Railways and Coal Piyush Goyal launched the UTTAM App for Coal Quality Monitoring.
- ❖ The first indigenously developed offshore patrol vessel - ICGS Vikram - was commissioned into the Indian Coast



Guard at Kattupalli Port near Ennore of Chennai.

- ❖ The RH-300 MKII sounding rocket developed by IRSO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).
- ❖ Minister of Communications launched the DARPAN-PLI - for Postal Life Insurance and Rural Postal Life Insurance policies.
- ❖ Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) has launched Sukhad Yatra mobile application and 1033 Toll-free Emergency number for highway users.
- ❖ India's first 5G lab - Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Delhi.
- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched IRNSS-II navigation satellite.
- ❖ Madras High Court has introduced the e-court fee payment facility for fee payments of the adjudicating cases.
- ❖ Ganga Hariteema Yojana - aims at increasing green cover in catchment areas of river Ganga and controls land erosion - Uttar Pradesh Government.
- ❖ Diu Smart City has become the first city in India to run on 100% renewable energy during daytime.
- ❖ Scientists have identified a new species of frog called Fejervarya goemchi in the highland plateaus of the Western Ghats parts of Goa.
- ❖ Chhattisgarh was awarded National Water Digest Award for Water Conservation-Diversion and increasing the irrigation capacity in the state.
- ❖ Videsh Aaya Pradesh ke Dwaar - aims to enhance public diplomacy outreach of MEA - Ministry of External Affairs.
- ❖ PV Sindhu - Deputy Collector.



- ❖ West Bengal government has launched a scheme called "Rupa shree" to ensure safe future for young women.
- ❖ Two-tier Panchayati Raj - Arunachal Pradesh Assembly passed Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill 2018 to do away with the Anchal Samiti.
- ❖ The two-day Assam Spring Festival was conducted at Manas National Park.
- ❖ Chhattisgarh won the 'State of the Year' Award.
- ❖ Jammu - first tulip garden.
- ❖ Kadaknath chicken - Madhya Pradesh GI tag
- ❖ Hike of retirement age - Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ The Delhi government has launched the 'Mission Buniyaad' scheme to improve learning levels of children from classes 3 to 9.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated a three-day long 'Happy Cities Summit 2018' at Mangalagiri town in Amaravati.
- ❖ Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has launched '181-Sakhi', a toll-free helpline number for women.
- ❖ The Kerala government is set to launch a community radio for farmers.
- ❖ The first regional conference of eastern states on Water Resources was held in Kolkata, West Bengal.



- ❖ Satya Pal Malik - Governor of Odisha (additional charge).
- ❖ The eleventh edition of World Hindi Conference will be hosted by Mauritius.
- ❖ In Nepal, the famous Bisket Jatra Festival is being celebrated in Bhaktapur.
- ❖ 2018 UNESCO Press Freedom Prize - Mahmoud Abu Zeid.
- ❖ Senior Advocate Indu Malhotra was sworn in as Judge of Supreme Court of India.
- ❖ The 21st edition of Commonwealth Games has recently held in Gold Coast, Australia.



MAY – 2018

- ❖ The 29th Road Safety Week was observed with a Road Safety awareness rally across Tamilnadu from April 23 to 30.
- ❖ The first-ever International Rail Coach Expo (IRCE) was held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu to focus on Rail Coaches and train sets.
- ❖ India's next generation defense aircraft - Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas.

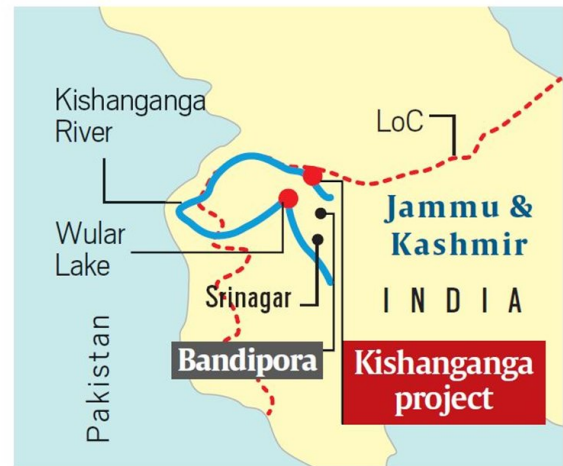


- ❖ The first-ever India-South Africa Business Summit held in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- ❖ Thank You India - mark the 60th anniversary of the Dalai Lama's arrival in India.
- ❖ Atal New India Challenge - to developing innovations and technologies relevant to the people and bringing them in usage.
- ❖ India's first-ever national conference on the archaeology, anthropology, and sociology of food was held in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ❖ The first meeting of the national committee for commemoration of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in 2019, held in Delhi.

- ❖ Vijay Prahar Exercise - The South Western Command of the Indian Army.
- ❖ 'Study in India' programme - to attract foreign students to pursue higher education in India - The Ministry of Human Resources Development in collaboration with Ministry of External Affairs.
- ❖ The National Institutional Ranking Framework is a methodology adopted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India - to rank institutions of higher education in India.
- ❖ Adopt a Heritage Project - selected public sector companies, private sector companies, and individuals will develop tourist amenities at heritage sites.
- ❖ Varuna 2018 naval exercise - The Indian and French navies.
- ❖ Taniya Sanyal from Kolkata has become the first woman firefighter in India.
- ❖ Rastriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan - to strengthen the country's Panchayati Raj system and address critical gaps that hinder its success.
- ❖ Gobar Dhan scheme - aims to positively impact village cleanliness and generate wealth and energy from cattle and organic waste.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) beyond 12th Five Year Plan to 2019-20.
- ❖ The 4th Regional Conference on 'Futuristic, Resilient and Digital Infrastructure' was held in Bengaluru.



- ❖ The 2018 Secure India Conclave has started in New Delhi - organized by Global Counter-Terrorism.
- ❖ India was ranked 11th position in the FDI Confidence Index 2018.
- ❖ International Children's Theatre Festival held in Kolkata.
- ❖ India will host the World Environment Day this year (2018).
- ❖ The Prime Minister released a commemorative postage stamp on former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Late Shri Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna.
- ❖ The 6th United States-India Aviation Summit was held in Mumbai, Maharashtra from 9 to 11 May, 2018.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepalese counterpart KP Sharma Oli jointly inaugurated direct bus service between Janakpur (Nepal) and Ayodhya (India).
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved National Policy on Biofuels – 2018 in order to promote biofuels in the country.
- ❖ National Water Informatics Centre (NWIC) to maintain a comprehensive water resources data.
- ❖ India's first advisory center for energy - Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kanpur.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Kishanganga Hydroelectric Project in Jammu & Kashmir.



- ❖ Indore emerged as the cleanest city, followed by Bhopal and Chandigarh in the recent government's cleanliness survey.
- ❖ Former Attorney General of India Mukul Rohatgi has been appointed as 'eminent jurist - Lokpal selection committee.
- ❖ Gandiv Vijay - Chetak corps of South Western Command of Indian Army.
- ❖ Chhattisgarh will get specialized anti-Naxal combat force called Black Panther.
- ❖ India's first National Sports University - Imphal (west), Manipur.
- ❖ The Central Reserve Police Force has commissioned special unit called Bastariya Battalion to combat Naxals activities in Bastar region of Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) launched Samagra Shiksha scheme to improve quality of school education.
- ❖ ASEAN India Film Festival was held in New Delhi from May 25 to 30, 2018.
- ❖ Indian Navy conducted an exercise called Prasthan in the Western Offshore Development area in Mumbai.
- ❖ Cuba's new president - Miguel Díaz-Canel.



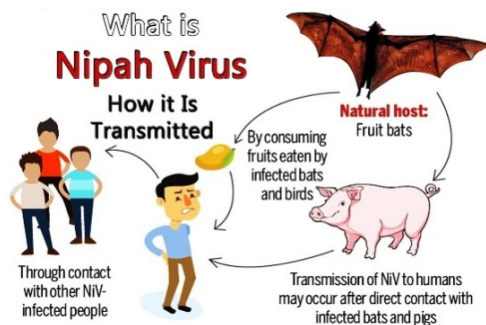
- ❖ International Buddhist Conference was held in Lumbini, Nepal to commemorate 2562nd Buddha Jayanti.
- ❖ World Press Freedom Index 2018 - India was placed at 138th rank.
- ❖ The North's Kim Jong-un and Moon Jae-in of South Korea agreed to work to rid the peninsula of nuclear weapons.
- ❖ South Asia Economic Focus report - projected growth rate of 7.3% for India in 2018 and 7.5% for 2019 and 2020.
- ❖ The 9th India Japan Energy Dialogue was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The 6th Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) was held at Iranian capital Tehran on April 22-25, 2018.
- ❖ Russia has launched the world's only floating nuclear power unit into the Baltic Sea.



- ❖ Balikatan Military Exercise - United States and the Philippines.
- ❖ Prime Minister of Malaysia - Mahathir Mohamad.
- ❖ Prime Minister of Armenia - Nikol Pashinyan.
- ❖ Costa Rican president - Carlos Alvarado Quesada.
- ❖ World Health Organization has launched "REPLACE" to eliminate industrially-produced artificial trans-fats from global food supply chain by 2023.
- ❖ Veteran spy Gina Haspel will become the first female director of the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency - CIA).
- ❖ China launched relay satellite named Queqiao (Magpie Bridge) to establish a communication link between earth and its planned Chang'e-4 lunar probe.
- ❖ World Health Organization (WHO) has validated Nepal for having eliminated trachoma.
- ❖ Interim Prime Minister of Pakistan - Nasir ul Mulk.
- ❖ Interactive Robotic Assistant (IRA) 2.0 – HDFC Bank.
- ❖ UN World Economic Situation and Prospects - India's economy is projected to grow 7.6% in the fiscal year 2018-19.
- ❖ The Union Government has reconstituted Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) to include secretaries from revenue department as well as Ministry of Information Technology (MeitY).
- ❖ The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has developed Bhabha Kavach, a next-generation bulletproof jacket.
- ❖ A restored Dakota aircraft joined the Indian Air Force.
- ❖ China successfully launched "APSTAR-6C", a new communication satellite into orbit.
- ❖ Ministry of Electronics and Information technology (MeitY) has launched 'Digital India Internship Scheme' portal in an effort to enhance skills of the youngsters.
- ❖ Bangladesh's first communication satellite Bangabandhu-1 will be launched by SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.
- ❖ China successfully launched a Gaofen-5 satellite.



- ❖ The UNICEF launched Data Visualisation App to provide a user-friendly visual representation of complex analytics of education scenario in India.
- ❖ The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) conducted its first ever mock exercise in Patna Airport.
- ❖ India is conducting first organized census of Indus Dolphins, one of the world's rarest mammals found only in India and Pakistan.
- ❖ Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched full-fledged Green Skill Development Programme - aims to train over 5.5 lakh workers in environment and forest sectors.
- ❖ Nipah Virus (NiV) Infection - Kerala.



- ❖ The BCCI and United Nations Environment on May 27, 2018, signed an agreement to promote green' cricket in India.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh has bagged the Most Film Friendly State Award given by the central government.

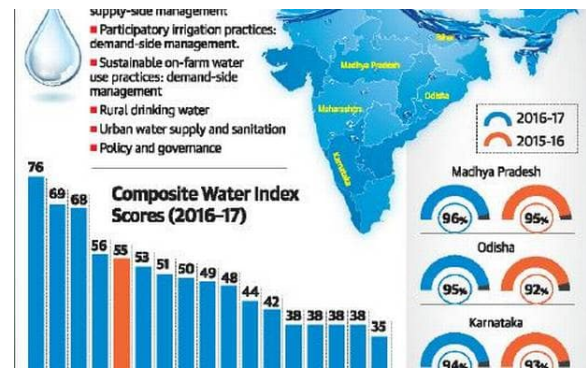
- ❖ Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling became the longest-serving chief minister of any state.
- ❖ Go to Village Mission-Manipur.
- ❖ Best Gram Panchayat – Digambarpur (West Bengal).
- ❖ Maharashtra became the first state to provide digitally-signed land record receipts.
- ❖ BSNL has started Asthamangal project to connect capital places of the North East with high-speed bandwidth.
- ❖ Meghalaya has launched Mission Lakadong to produce 50,000 metric tonnes of the famous Lakadong turmeric per annum in the next five years.
- ❖ Kerala chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan launched Pravasi pension scheme.
- ❖ Heli-ambulance: Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ Telangana government has launched Rythu Bandhu (friend of farmers) Scheme, an investment support scheme to support the livelihood of farmers.
- ❖ Arunachal's biggest solar plant – Energy Awareness Park in Itanagar.
- ❖ Uttarakhand's 1st City Gas Distribution System - Udham Singh Nagar district.
- ❖ Rajasthan Government has launched new software called Nidaan for disease monitoring and strengthening telemedicine services in the government hospitals.
- ❖ The Haryana Government will launch the 'Chatra Parivahan Suraksha Yojana' to ensure the safety of girl students.
- ❖ World's Largest Bird Sculpture 'Jatayu' - Kerala tourism.
- ❖ Allahabad – Change of Name – Prayag.



- ❖ Manipur has become the first state in North-East and third in India to have solar toilets.
- ❖ The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) was awarded National Intellectual Property (IP) Award 2018.
- ❖ Gujarati poet, playwright and academic Sitanshu Yashaschandra was selected for 2017 Saraswati Samman.
- ❖ World Hindu Congress 2018- Chicago.
- ❖ Krishna Menon Award - Mahendra Chaudhry.
- ❖ CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award - Diana Edulji.
- ❖ PC Chandra Puraskar - Asha Bhosle (singer).
- ❖ Central Government's Technology Development Board has awarded National Technology Award 2018.
- ❖ First woman lawyer to sworn in as SC judge - Indu Malhotra.
- ❖ The government has appointed former Supreme Court Judge CK Prasad as Chairman of Press Council of India.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh Minister for IT, Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Nara Lokesh received the "Digital Leader of the Year" award.
- ❖ India Biodiversity Award 2018 - Arunachal Pradesh-based NGO Singchung Bugun Community Reserve.
- ❖ Singapore's Professional boxer Nurshahidah Roslie was named WBC Asia's Female Champion of the Year.

JUNE – 2018

- ❖ “Plastic Free Tamil Nadu policy” under which plastic banned from January 2019.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu’s 1st Antyodaya Express – (Thambaram to Tirunelveli).
- ❖ India and Netherlands launched Clean Air India Initiative - to curb air pollution in Indian cities.
- ❖ India’s First Advanced Forensic Lab is India’s first advanced forensic lab dedicated to crimes related to women for timely deliver justice - Central Forensic Science Lab, Chandigarh.
- ❖ The Madhya Pradesh approved the Bijli Bill Mafi Yojana 2018, outstanding power bill waiver scheme for labourers and poor families.
- ❖ The Union Ministry launched the ‘Janaushadhi Suvidha’, the oxo-biodegradable sanitary napkin, under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).
- ❖ The first ever National Disaster Risk Index was released - Maharashtra is the most disaster vulnerable state.
- ❖ The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India launched a national media campaign to encourage smoking cessation.
- ❖ Berne Convention for Protection of Literary and Artistic Works – WIPO.
- ❖ India hosted the first military exercise of the BIMSTEC Countries in Maharashtra.
- ❖ Gujarat has topped the Niti Aayog's composite water management index.



- ❖ The Solar Charkha Mission of the Ministry of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) - It will disburse subsidy of Rs 550 crore to the artisans and it will cover 50 clusters.
- ❖ World’s first International Centre for Humanitarian Forensics – Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ E.Sreedharan Committee formed to lay down standards for metro rail systems in the country.
- ❖ The first edition of Global Wind Summit held in Hamburg, Germany.
- ❖ Social Media Tax – Uganda for using platforms like WhatsApp, Facebook, and Twitter.
- ❖ In the “End of Childhood Index 2018” India ranks 113 among 175 countries.
- ❖ Peace Mission 2018 - SCO.
- ❖ China awarded its first highest state honour Friendship Medal to Russian President Vladimir Putin.
- ❖ SCO summit concluded with the adoption of the Qingdao declaration at China.
- ❖ The 44th summit of the Group of Seven (G7) was held in La Malbaie, Quebec, Canada.



- ❖ Turkey's long-standing leader Recep Tayyip Erdogan has been re-elected.
- ❖ GRACE-FO will track Earth's water Cycle i.e. water movement and ice melt (NASA).
- ❖ The Ministry of Power has launched an app called PRAAPTI to bring in greater transparency in power purchase transactions.
- ❖ Scientists from Newcastle University, UK have created world's first 3D printed human corneas.
- ❖ The 106th Indian Science Congress held at Lovely Professional University (LPU) in Jalandhar, Punjab.
- ❖ World's first fully solar energy-powered airport - Cochin airport.
- ❖ Odisha's Chandra bhaga Beach become Asia's first to get the Blue Flag certification.
- ❖ World's oldest Sumatran Orangutan named "puan" died in Australian zoo.
- ❖ New State Symbols of Andhra Pradesh : State bird - Rama Chiluka or rose-ringed parakeet, State animal - blackbuck or Krishna Jinka, State flower – jasmine, State tree – Neem.
- ❖ Himachal Pradesh has launched 'Prakritik Kheti Khushhaal Kissan Yojana' to promote Zero Budget Natural Farming System.



- ❖ Andhra Pradesh CM Nara Chandrababu Naidu has launched the third year of Chandranna Bima Yojana.
- ❖ Gopabandhu Sambadika Swasthya Bima Yojana is a Health Insurance Scheme for the journalists launched by the Odisha state government.
- ❖ The Andhra Pradesh government launched a Zero Based Natural Farming.
- ❖ The Haryana government has announced a 15-day paternity leave to all male government employees.
- ❖ Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) has converted a garbage dumping ground into a "museum of trees".
- ❖ Sikkim's longest tunnel - Theng Tunnel.
- ❖ Jharkhand govt. is going to launch Mukhbir Yojana to curb child marriage.
- ❖ Gujarat government has launched Suryashakti Kisan Yojana (SKY), solar power scheme for farmers.
- ❖ The Gujarat government has announced its wind-solar hybrid power policy - 2018 to promote setting up of wind as well as solar power projects at one location.
- ❖ Polish author Olga Tokarczuk (56) was awarded Man Booker International Prize 2018 for her novel Flights.
- ❖ The Chau mask of Purulia, the wooden mask of Kushmandi, the Patachitra, the Dokras of Bengal, and Madhurkathi (a kind of mat) presented with the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- ❖ World's highest-paid athlete - Cristiano Ronaldo.
- ❖ 'National Gopal Ratna' award - Dhiraj Ram Krishna.



- ❖ First woman Indian Air Force (IAF) fighter pilot from South India - Meghana Shanbough MR
- ❖ Miss India 2018 - Tamil Nadu's Anukreethy Vas.
- ❖ SKOCH, a New Delhi-based think-tank, has conferred the 'Best performing Social Sector Ministry' award on the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- ❖ Chief Minister of the Year' award - Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje.



- ❖ India's first 'Tribal Queen' - Pallavi Durua of Odisha's Koraput district.
- ❖ Maharashtra's youngest International Master - Raunak Sadhwani of Nagpur.
- ❖ The lead striker from the English National Team, Harry Kane is named as the most valuable player for the upcoming FIFA World Cup.
- ❖ 'World's first space nation' - Asgardia' – Russian scientist.
- ❖ United States has renamed its oldest and largest strategically important military command US Pacific Command to Indo-Pacific Command.
- ❖ Avvaiyar Award 2018 was given by tamilnadu government to Mrs Chinnapillai Perumal.



- ❖ 13th World Tamil Culture Conference: 13th edition of the conference was held in the Bengaluru.
- ❖ Yog Aayog: Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar has introduced the “Yog Aayog” to promote yoga in the state.
- ❖ Delhi government has launched the “Happiness Curriculum” for school students.
- ❖ Punjab CM Amarinder Singh has launched the mission to transform Punjab into one of the healthiest states.
- ❖ Shillong was selected as the 100th city to receive funding under the Smart Cities Mission.



- ❖ MUGHALSARAI Railway Station in Uttar Pradesh was renamed as the “Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Railway Station”.
- ❖ Tripura’s State Fruit – Queen pine apple.
- ❖ Goa Revolution Day - 19 th June.
- ❖ Come out and play campaign – kerala tourism.
- ❖ Non – Permanent Members of UN Security Council: South Africa, Indonesia, Dominican Republic, Germany and Belgium.
- ❖ Canada has become the second nation in the world to legalize marijuana. (1 st – Uruguay).
- ❖ Operation NISTAR: Indian Navy has successfully rescued 38 Indians with the



help of “INS SUNAYANA” from cyclone-hit Socotra Island in Yemen.

- ❖ Indian Army is observing year 2018 as “Year of Disabled Soldiers in Line of Duty”.
- ❖ RemoveDEBRIS Mission: 1st Satellite to demonstrate technology to clean up space junk deployed. It was launched by the SpaceX CRS-14.

- ❖ SURESH MATHUR COMMITTEE was formed to increase insurance penetration in the country.
- ❖ Dr.Lawrence Haddad and Dr David Nabarro” awarded the world food prize (FAO).
- ❖ Emergency: Indian Democracy’s Darkest Hour written by A. Suriya Prakash.

July – 2018

- ❖ India's first transgender lawyer - Sathyasri Sharmila.
- ❖ India's first transgender judge - Joyita Mondal (West Bengal).
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Assembly on 9 July, 2018 passed the Tamil Nadu Lokayukta Bill, 2018.
- ❖ The fossil museum at Varanavasi near Ariyalur town is set to open.
- ❖ Upgradation of 7 monuments in Tamil Nadu –
 - Shore Temple, Mamallapuram,
 - Gingee Fort
 - Kailasanathar Temple, Kanchipuram
 - Brihadeeswarar Temple, Thanjavur
 - Sithannavasal caves
 - Vellore Fort
 - Moovar Koil, Kodumbalur.
- ❖ The Tamil nadu forest policy looks to increase forest and tree cover to at least 30% by 2025 – Tamil nadu forest policy unveiled.
- ❖ Indigenously developed Smart Air purifier - 'Vistar' (IIT Madras).
- ❖ STAR 2.0 - online' registration of Weddings, Chits, and Societies from August 2018.
- ❖ UNESCO World Heritage List - Two building clusters of Victorian Gothic and Art Deco architectural styles in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ❖ Maharashtra Government has signed MoU with Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited to launched Cotton Mission to empower cotton farmers.

- ❖ India's First Global Mobility Summit - Niti Ayog.



- ❖ Supreme Court: LG Does Not Have Independent Powers - It also held that LG is bound to act on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers.
- ❖ Agartala Airport Renamed - Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore Airport.
- ❖ Animals - as 'legal persons' – Uttarakhand high court.
- ❖ 17th World Sanskrit Conference – Canada.
- ❖ Indian naval ship, INS Sumitra became the first-ever warship to enter the port of Sabang in Indonesia.
- ❖ 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019 - Theme: Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India.
- ❖ K.Kasturirangan Committee - a new education policy.



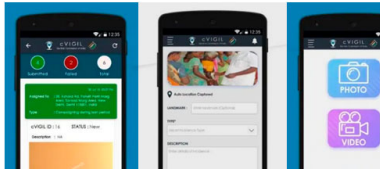


- ❖ National Tourism Conclave was organised in Rajasthan (Jaipur).
- ❖ India's First Hypercar - Vazirani Shul.
- ❖ The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India launched its digital campaign #ThinkForHealth in New Delhi.
- ❖ Bansagar canal project Inaugurated in Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Delhi Dialogue (DD X) was held in New Delhi and the theme for this edition (2018) was “Strengthening India-ASEAN Maritime Cooperation”.
- ❖ The Union Home Minister has launched the Student Police Cadet (SPC) Programme nationally (students of class 8 & 9).
- ❖ The Ministry of Human Resource Development has announced 'Padhe Bharat- Badhe Bharat' to promote the reading culture among students.
- ❖ Pitch Black 2018 (PB-18) exercise held in Australia.(Indian air force first time participated).
- ❖ Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme to control viral hepatitis C on the occasion of World Hepatitis Day (July 28).
- ❖ Mission Satyanishtha – Indian railways - sensitizing all railway employees about the need to adhere to good ethics.
- ❖ 'World Tolerance Summit – UAE.
- ❖ Colombia's Chiribiquete park declared World Heritage Site.
- ❖ The Global Innovation Index (GII) has ranked India as the 57th most innovative nation in the world.
- ❖ The United Arab Emirates has extended compulsory military service for Emirati men from 12 to 16 months.
- ❖ The Portuguese parliament approved a law that will allow citizens to change their gender and name from the age of 16.
- ❖ India has become the vice-chair (regional head) of the Asia Pacific region of the World Customs Organisation (WCO).
- ❖ Walking Action Plan - to make London the 'world's most walkable city.
- ❖ International Army Games 2018 held in Russia.
- ❖ 4 th BIMSTEC summit held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ Ireland hold an international conference of female parliamentarians.
- ❖ Pakistan’s first woman chief justice of the high court - Justice Tahira Safdar.
- ❖ Ravindra Dholakia committee to revise the base year for National Accounts or Gross Domestic Production (GDP) calculation.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh emerged as the top-ranked state in the Union government’s latest ease of doing business index for states (World Bank and DIPP - Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion).
- ❖ India – 6th largest economy in terms of GDP (World Bank Report).
- ❖ “ReUnite” App to track and trace missing and abandoned children in India.
- ❖ The Election Commission of India has launched cVIGIL mobile application for citizens to report any violation of the Model Code of Conduct during elections.



Pilot Project to curb
Electoral Malpractices

cVIGIL APP



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- ❖ India's first biofortified sorghum (Jowar) named Parbhani Shakti was launched.
- ❖ South Africa unveiled new 64-dish MeerKAT radio telescope.
- ❖ Chhattisgarh CM Raman Singh launched an online portal and mobile app called 'Aabhaar-Aapki seva ka' for the online pensioners of the state.
- ❖ Blood Moon – July 27.
- ❖ Rajasthan Chief Minister has launched a mobile app 'Bijli Mitra' to register complaints about defunct transformers.
- ❖ The Environment Ministry re-introduced the 'Medini Puraskar Yojna' – a scheme that awards Indian authors for their original work in Hindi on environment, pollution and climate change subjects.
- ❖ National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has launched the Centre for Climate Change in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ India's Top State in producing Renewable Energy - Karnataka.
- ❖ The Punjab government has launched a new scheme 'Paani Bachao, Paise Kamao' to check depletion of underground water.
- ❖ "No Toilet, No Bride" – Haryana.
- ❖ Study Committee for Floating Solar Power Plant – Maharashtra government - to study issues related to the development of a 1,000-MW floating solar power plant at Ujani dam in Solapur district.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh was awarded by Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for reducing maternal mortality under Prime Minister's Safe Motherhood Campaign.
- ❖ Mandatory Dope Test - Punjab Chief Minister.
- ❖ Gujarat CM launched 'Poshan Abhiyan' - a statewide mission to eradicate malnutrition among children by providing them nutritious food through Anganwadi centers.
- ❖ The Kerala government has constituted an expert panel comprising eminent writers and language experts to choose an official song for the state.
- ❖ Anna Canteens Launched – Andhra Pradesh.



- ❖ One farmer one transformer – Maharashtra government.
- ❖ The Odisha government decided to set up a unique 'Heritage Cabinet'.
- ❖ The Haryana Education Department has launched "I am not afraid of English" initiative to promote English language right from Class 1 in the state's primary schools.
- ❖ For the first time the Karnataka Government will undertake survey of property and land through Drone.



- ❖ The 'Sulabh Jal' project converts contaminated pond and river water into safe drinking water.
- ❖ Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb on 20th July, inaugurated the 7 days long "Kharchi Puja" at Puran Habeli, in Tripura.
- ❖ Odisha Government has unveiled first-ever 'Tribal Atlas of Odisha'.
- ❖ Odisha Government has launched 'Green Mahanadi Mission', a plantation drive under which 2 crore saplings will be planted along Mahanadi river and its tributaries.
- ❖ Country's 1st State-Run All-Woman Hotel - The Kerala Tourism Development Corporation (KTDC).
- ❖ Arunachal Pradesh government is going to launch a new health insurance scheme, 'Chief Minister's Arogya Arunachal Yojana'.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh Government has conferred prestigious National Kalidas



- Samman on noted artist Anjolie Ela Menon (78) for her contribution to visual arts.
- ❖ Milan Shankar Tare, a fisherman from Maharashtra's Palghar district, has been selected for this year's National Maritime Search and Rescue Award.
- ❖ Angela Ponce has become the first-ever transgender woman to be crowned Miss Universe Spain.
- ❖ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Justice AK Goel as new Chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT).
- ❖ Golden Man Booker International Prize 2018 - Michael Ondaatje.
- ❖ Sangita Kalanidhi award - Aruna Sairam.
- ❖ Champion of Earth Prize – 2018 - Cochin International Airport Ltd.
- ❖ Assam's sports brand ambassador - Hima Das.
- ❖ Eat Right Movement – FSSAI.

AUGUST-2018

- ❖ Summer Olympics: Los Angeles to host 2028 Games and Paris gets 2024.
- ❖ Usain Bolt was beaten by Justin Gatlin and in 100m race final at IAAF World Championships in London.
- ❖ The Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University (RGNAU) - India's first-ever aviation university- Fursatganj in Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ Manipur's Nungthang Tampak has become India's second 100 percent computer literate village.
- ❖ The apex court has banned fireworks manufacturers from using five substances - lithium, antimony, mercury, arsenic and lead.
- ❖ Preethi Srinivasan, the former State under-19 cricket captain, was awarded Kalpana Chawla Award from Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ India's first private sector missile sub-systems manufacturing facility, a joint venture between the \$2.5 billion Kalyani Group and Israel's Rafael Advanced Defence Systems Ltd., was inaugurated near Hyderabad.
- ❖ 75 years of Quit India Movement.
- ❖ PM interacted with Young Entrepreneurs at the "Champions of Change" initiative organised by NITI Aayog
- ❖ Navika Sagar Parikrama is a project wherein a team of women officers of the Indian Navy would circumnavigate the globe on an Indian-built sail boat INSV Tarini.
- ❖ The government has cleared the proposal of developing Ghantasala village in

Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh as one of the prime Buddhist tourist spots.

- ❖ The Supreme Court has given the verdict in Aadhar case that the individual information is Fundamental Right according to the Indian Constitution.
- ❖ YUVA is a skill development programme and an initiative by Delhi Police under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY).
- ❖ The 15th BIMSTEC ministerial meeting was held in Kathmandu, Nepal on 11 August.



- ❖ The Turkmenistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan–India Pipeline (TAPI), also known as Trans-Afghanistan Pipeline, is a natural gas pipeline being developed by the Asian Development Bank.
- ❖ The International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N. global nuclear watchdog, opened a uranium bank in Kazakhstan.
- ❖ The Finance Ministry has imposed a five year anti-dumping duty on Sodium Nitrite imports from China.
- ❖ The government launched a portal, e-RaKAM, to provide a platform to sell agricultural produce.



- ❖ The National Biopharma Mission, named Innovate in India (i3), is the first ever Industry-Academia mission to accelerate biopharmaceutical development in India in India.
- ❖ ISRO and NASA are working towards realisation of NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission by 2021.
- ❖ Microsoft launches Project Brainwave for real-time Artificial Intelligence.
- ❖ Union Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ministry launched 'Gaj Yatra', a nationwide campaign to protect elephants on the occasion of World Elephant Day (August 12).
- ❖ Cabinet has given the approval for the completion of North Koel reservoir project in Jharkhand and Bihar.
- ❖ 'Indira Canteen Scheme' was launched in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- ❖ Coconut palm declared as State tree of Goa.



- ❖ India's first micro forest will be built in Raipur, Chattisgarh.
- ❖ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched 'She Means Business' programme of Facebook for women entrepreneurs in Odisha.
- ❖ Gobindobhog rice, a specialty from Burdwan district of West Bengal, has got the geographical indication (GI) status.
- ❖ Renowned scientist Pushpa Mitra Bhargava, the founder director of CSIR-Centre for Cellular Molecular Biology (CCMB) Hyderabad, passed away.
- ❖ Ustad Hussain Sayeeduddin Dagar, one of the foremost exponents of the Dhrupad tradition, died.
- ❖ Sprint legend Milkha Singh has been appointed as the World Health Organisation's goodwill ambassador for physical activity in South-East Asia Region (SEAR).



SEPTEMBER – 2018

- ❖ Tamil Nadu will soon have its fourth open-air prison at Thirumalaisamudiram village in Thanjavur district. First three are Coimbatore, Salem, and Sivaganga districts.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu receives five awards from Centre. Tuticorin got a national award for achieving self-sufficiency under seven schemes under Grama Swaraj Abhiyan.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority (TNSDMA) is going to launch an app called 'TN-SMART' for real-time risk assessment.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu is going to conduct the 20th livestock census, which is the 1st technology-aided livestock census.
- ❖ Table Tennis star G Sathiyam has been conferred with Arjuna Award in the National Sports Awards 2018.
- ❖ Table Tennis coach A Srinivas Rao has been conferred with Dronacharya Award.
- ❖ New corporation in the state – Nagercoil (13 th).
- ❖ NITI Aayog 's Mobility Week (31 August to 6 September 2018).
- ❖ Prime Minister launched the India post payments bank (IPPB) on September 01, 2018.
- ❖ National Nutrition Week – September 1 to 7.
- ❖ NITI Aayog flagged off MOVE Cyclathon, a cycle rally to promote cleaner, accessible modes of transport.
- ❖ National Clean School Award - Pavendhar Bharathidasan government primary school (Puducherry).
- ❖ Indians became the third largest air travelers by nationality according to World Air Transport Statistics
- ❖ 4th Annual Sustainable Smart Cities India Conference was held at Bengaluru.
- ❖ India's first railway university – Vadodara.



- ❖ Plan Bee - to prevent speeding trains from hitting elephants crossing tracks (Indian Railways).
- ❖ Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan- It aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018.
- ❖ Chairman of Lok Sabha ethics panel - L.K.Advani.
- ❖ Minority Affairs launched country's first National Scholarship Portal mobile app - NSP Mobile App.
- ❖ First tribal circuit project – Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ India's 1st 'Smart Fence' Pilot Project in jammu.
- ❖ Chennai Central Railway Station has received the 'Indian Green Building Council Certification' for adopting



Green building features and concepts in the Station.

- ❖ Jaipur Literature festival – Texas.
- ❖ D.K.Jain committee – ISRO Spy Case.
- ❖ Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna for Insured Persons (IP) covered under the Employees’ State Insurance Act, 1948 (ESI).
- ❖ India and Russia joint air exercise Aviaindra 18 was held in Lipetsk, Russia from September 17 to 28, 2018.



- ❖ India’s first Coal-gasification fertilizer plant - Talcher, Odisha (September 22).
- ❖ PM inaugurates Jharsuguda airport – Odisha (powerhouse of Odisha).
- ❖ Prime Minister launched (September 23) ambitious Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), under Ayushman Bharat umbrella at Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- ❖ Committee to Look into Jail Reforms - Justice Amitava Roy.
- ❖ Lokpal Search Committee - Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai
- ❖ Sabarimala temple verdict - on 28 September 2018, upheld the right of women of all ages to worship in places of their choice. The court was ruling on a PIL filed in 2006 by non-profit body Indian Young Lawyers’ Association.

- ❖ Injeti Srinivas High Level Committee – Corporate Social Responsibility.
- ❖ 4th BIMSTEC Summit held in Kathmandu, Nepal with the theme “Towards a Peaceful Prosperous, and Sustainable Bay of Bengal Region”.
- ❖ Minister of AYUSH inaugurated the Fourth International Ayurveda Congress (IAvC) at the Netherlands.
- ❖ China-Maldives Friendship Bridge (It connects Maldives capital city Male and neighboring Hulhule island).
- ❖ KAZIND 2018 - Indo-Kazakhstan Joint Army Exercise.
- ❖ Ukraine-NATO Joint Military Exercises - Rapid Trident 2018.
- ❖ The International Women Entrepreneurs Summit 2018 is being held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ Sri Lanka Navy and Indian Navy Joint exercise SLINEX-2018 held at Trincomalee from September 7 to 13.
- ❖ The World Hindu Congress was held in Chicago, USA.
- ❖ COMCASA Treaty - India and the United States initiated a new generation of military and security cooperation.
- ❖ India & USA Combat Exercise – yudh abhyas.





- ❖ Milex – 2018 :The first-ever Bimstec anti-terror military exercise held at Pune in Maharashtra.
- ❖ New digital bridge with Africa : e-VidyaBharati and e-ArogyaBharati Network Project.
- ❖ Nomadic Elephant Exercise -2018 (Indo-Mongolia joint exercise).
- ❖ Sagarmatha Friendship - 2018 - Nepal-China joint military exercise.
- ❖ Sudan's New PM - Moutaz Mousa Abdallah.
- ❖ 7th UNWTO Global Summit on Urban Tourism was held in Seoul with the theme "A 2030 Vision for Urban Tourism".
- ❖ World Health Organisation has released a report called Global status report on alcohol and health 2018, which presents a comprehensive picture of alcohol consumption.
- ❖ Times Higher Education's (THE) world university rankings 2019 - The Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (251-300 band).
- ❖ Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace - 2019-2028.
- ❖ First-Ever Women-Only Foreign Minister Conference held in Canada.
- ❖ Global Wetland Outlook Report, first-ever global report on the state of the world's wetlands, was released by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.
- ❖ Nepal becomes first country to double its tiger population.
- ❖ Financial Inclusion Index - released by Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance.
- ❖ Kerala's calamity cess demand - aimed at meeting cost of reconstruction in Kerala in the aftermath of floods.
- ❖ The Offshore Patrol Vessel ICGS Vijaya (OPV-2) has delivered to the Indian Coast Guard on 30 August 2018.
- ❖ The United Arab Emirates has selected its first two astronauts to go on a mission to the International Space Station.
- ❖ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has planned to set up first overseas ground station at the north pole.
- ❖ HY – 1C: China launched a marine satellite to help improve understanding of maritime waters and climate change.
- ❖ Asia's First airport use Face recognition - Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru.
- ❖ India's first commercial underwater drone- EyeROV TUNA
- ❖ Cyber Security Conference 'COCON XI' – Kerala police.
- ❖ Union Ministry of Home Affairs has launched e-Sahaj portal to facilitate individuals and private companies in seeking security clearance for setting up businesses in certain sensitive sectors.
- ❖ World's first hydrogen-powered train – Germany.





- ❖ Tripura CM inaugurated ISRO's first Space Technology Incubation Centre at the National Institute of Technology Agartala via remote from Bengaluru.
- ❖ Sikkim gets Sensor-based 'Landslide warning system' (country's second).
- ❖ NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) has discovered two new earth-like exoplanets namely "super-Earth" and "hot Earth".
- ❖ Finance Ministry has launched Mobile Application Jan Dhan Darshak as a Part of Financial Inclusion.
- ❖ The Nagaland government has declared the Singphan Wildlife Sanctuary as an elephant reserve. It has become 30th reserve for elephants in the country.
- ❖ The 2018 Global Summit on Climate Action held at San Francisco in California, United States.
- ❖ Typhoon Mangkhut - Luzon island in the Philippines.
- ❖ Air Pollution Control Device "WAYU".
- ❖ Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has partnered with Google to launch Loo Review campaign on Google Map.
- ❖ Krishna Kutir - a special home for 1000 widows at Vrindavan in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh created by the Ministry of Women & Child Development (MoWCD) under Swadhar Greh scheme.
- ❖ Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh launched PUDA 360, an e-properties module to facilitate online property transactions.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh government organized a day-long mass teaching programme, 'Mil Banchey Madhya Pradesh'.
- ❖ Delhi government has launched its Home Delivery of Public Services on September 10 which is being done for the first time in the country.
- ❖ The agricultural festival of Nuakhai has started in Odisha on 13th September 2018.
- ❖ In an attempt to combat human trafficking, the West Bengal government has rolled out a scheme, Swayangsiddha, in different districts of the State.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh is going to launch 'YuvaNestam scheme' for providing 'unemployment allowance' to the state's youth from October 2018.
- ❖ 1st ever dedicated Dog Park – Hyderabad.
- ❖ Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu flagged off the 'Swachh Dhara' programme at Amravati in Andhra Pradesh with the main objective of providing clean drinking water across the state.
- ❖ Maharashtra Government is setting up new Cyber University dedicated to mitigating cyber threats.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh Police are set to launch a first of its kind dial-FIR scheme in the country.
- ❖ The Government of Karnataka has launched 'Airavata Scheme', a first-of-its-kind scheme that will create more self-employment opportunities.
- ❖ Naropa Festival concluded in Ladakh with a Guinness World Record in Ladakhi Dance.



- ❖ Jharsuguda airport to be renamed after freedom fighter - Veer Surendra Sai.



- ❖ 1st Kashmiri Muslim woman pilot - Iram Habib.
- ❖ B.C. Roy Award – 2017 - Dr. V. S. Negi.
- ❖ The Praful Bidwai Memorial Award for 2018 was given to Ulka Mahajan, co-founder of Sarvahara Jan Andolan.
- ❖ Ranjan Gogoi will on 3rd October succeed Dipak Misra as the 46th Chief Justice of India.

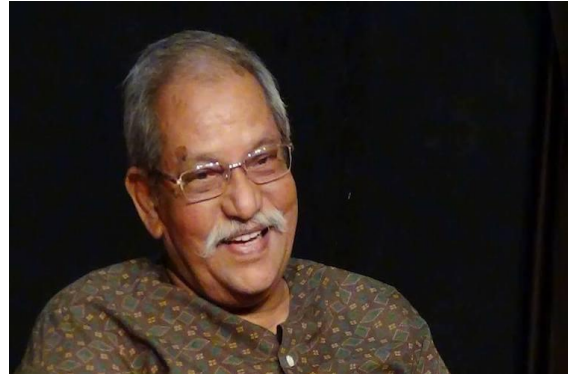


- ❖ Anna Rajam Malhotra, first Indian woman IAS officer after Independence, died in Mumbai on 17th September.
- ❖ V.R.Lalithambika to Head India's Gaganyaan project.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the United Nations' Champions of the Earth award for the year 2018.
- ❖ Japanese swimmer Rikako Ikee became the first female athlete to be named the Most Valuable Player (MVP) at an Asian Games.
- ❖ China topped the medal list with 289 medals followed by Japan (205) and Korea (177) IN Asian Games - 2018.
- ❖ All-women crew of INSV Tarini has bagged the prestigious Tenzing Norgay National Adventure award.
- ❖ Former Member of Parliament and Bollywood actress Jaya Prada has been appointed Goodwill Ambassador for the promotion of Nepal tourism.



OCTOBER – 2018

- ❖ Dr. A Edwin Joe Committee Report – to investigate the organ transplant racket.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has won the award for the Best State in Rural development at the 6th Edition of the ET (Economic Times) Rural Strategy Summit 2018.
- ❖ The maiden joint exercise of Coast Guards of India and Vietnam “Sahyog HOP TAC -2018” was held in the Bay of Bengal.
- ❖ Compensation scheme for sexual assault/acid attack victims - Tamil Nadu government.
- ❖ The new Fingerprint ID system, FACTS 7.0 has been Installed at all the district headquarters and police Commissionerate of Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ The Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus (CMBT) at Koyambedu was renamed as ‘Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.MGR Bus Stand’.
- ❖ Thamirabarani Maha Pushkaram has begun on Oct 11, 2018 at Papanasam in Tirunelveli district and it will be observed till October 23.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Governor presented the late Dr. Mohan Dharia Rashtranirman Puraskar award on agricultural scientist M.S. Swaminathan.
- ❖ 5th World Tamils Economic Conference – Puducherry.
- ❖ A stone inscription dating back to the 12th century AD has been found during an explorative study in Kailasanatha temple in Uttamasili.
- ❖ Praveen Chitravel, a farm labourer's son from Tamil Nadu, clinched a bronze medal in the men's triple jump in the Youth Olympics in Buenos Aires.
- ❖ e-Visa on arrival facility has been introduced at Madurai International Airport.
- ❖ National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) has invented Chennai Flood Warning System (C-FLOWS) to estimate & predict flooding within Chennai.
- ❖ A New e-learning analytical software named ‘Tutor 365’ was launched for students of government schools in Trichy by Its Chief Educational Officer.
- ❖ Rakshitta Ravi has become the India’s latest WIM (Woman International Master) at the age of 13 years, 6 months and 3 days.
- ❖ TN-SMART - for use during the approaching of the northeast monsoon.
- ❖ Na Muthuswamy, the famous playwright and founder of the prominent theatre group, Koothu-P-Pattarai, passed away in Chennai.



- ❖ India was ranked 5th among 206 countries in the Cigarette Package Health Warnings: International Status Report 2018.
- ❖ President has given assent Karnataka Good Samaritan and Medical Professional (Protection and Regulation during Emergency Situations) Bill, 2016 under Article 200 of the Constitution.



- ❖ 4th India International Science Festival – Lucknow.
- ❖ The Index of Economic Freedom 2018 was recently released by the Centre for Civil Society (CCS) – India stands at 96.
- ❖ India has launched massive humanitarian operation Samudra Maitri to provide assistance to earthquake and tsunami victims in Indonesia.
- ❖ The world's largest dome was inaugurated at Maharashtra Institute of Technology.
- ❖ IBSAMAR – VI - Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies.
- ❖ Swachh Survekshan Grameen Awards 2018 - Haryana was ranked as best State.
- ❖ India was ranked 28th among 73 countries in 2018 Government e-Payments Adoption Ranking (GEAR).
- ❖ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has launched Udyam Abhilasha, a national level entrepreneurship awareness campaign.
- ❖ The 19th annual India-Russia bilateral summit was held at New Delhi's Hyderabad House.
- ❖ The 3rd edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX) commenced at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Competition Law Review Committee - Injeti Srinivas.
- ❖ “Swachh Campus rankings” - Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham in Coimbatore has topped the Cleanest Technical Institutions' category.
- ❖ The country's biggest skill competition, India Skills 2018 has concluded in New Delhi.



- ❖ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj formally launched 'India for Humanity' initiative to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ The 32nd world conference of World Union of Wholesale Markets was inaugurated at Gurugram, Haryana.
- ❖ The first India-United States tri-services exercise is likely to take place in 2019 in India.
- ❖ India was recently elected to the United Nations' Human Rights Council' (UNHRC).
- ❖ The 32nd edition of India-Indonesia coordinated patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT) is being held in Belawan, Indonesia.



- ❖ The Union Government has launched a national campaign 'Swasth Bharat Yatra' on the occasion of World Food Day (16th October).
- ❖ Indian Navy has inducted its first deep submergence rescue vehicle (DSRV) at its base in Mumbai.
- ❖ Prema Gopalan, founder of Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP), has been honored as the India Social Entrepreneur of the Year (SEOY) 2018.
- ❖ The 12th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) summit was held in Brussels.



- ❖ India has been ranked as the 58th most competitive economy on the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index for 2018.
- ❖ According to a World Health Organization report, India is the world's most depressed country, closely followed by China and the US.
- ❖ Dharma Guardian - first joint military exercise between India and Japan.
- ❖ The Prime Minister on 21st October hoisted tricolour at the Red Fort to mark the 75th anniversary of the 'Azad Hind Government' headed by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- ❖ India's longest river bridge - connecting Dhubri in Assam to Phulbari in Meghalaya - will be built across the Brahmaputra by 2026-27.
- ❖ India's first railway station inside tunnel - Himachal Pradesh.
- ❖ India's first engine-less train - Train 18 (T-18).
- ❖ Nageshwar Rao - Interim Director of CBI.
- ❖ SAGAR Discourse 2.0 – for Integrated National Security.
- ❖ International Conference on Status and Protection of Coral Reefs (STAPCOR 2018) was held at Bangaram Island, Union Territory of Lakshadweep.
- ❖ Union HRD Ministry has constituted an Expert Group to formulate a draft policy to reduce weight of schoolbag(Professor Ranjana Arora).
- ❖ The sixth edition of North East festival was held in New Delhi on October 28.
- ❖ The 2nd edition of India Mobile Congress has been concluded at Aero city, New Delhi.
- ❖ United States and Morocco have launched GCTF Terrorist Travel Initiative.
- ❖ The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched the first global guidelines on sanitation and health.
- ❖ China will be hosting the 5th World Internet Conference (WIC) in November, 2018.
- ❖ New president of Iraq - Barham Salih.
- ❖ Brett Kavanaugh was sworn in as the 114th justice of the US Supreme Court.
- ❖ First female major general – Bangladesh - Dr Susane Giti.
- ❖ On the occasion of World Mental Health Day (10 Oct), the United Kingdom has appointed the world's first minister for suicide prevention.
- ❖ Malaysia to abolish the death penalty for all crimes.
- ❖ Stanford University was named as the World's Most Innovative University.
- ❖ According to 2018 Henley Index, Japan surpassed Singapore to have the most powerful passport.
- ❖ A two-day International Conference on Indian Ocean was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- ❖ World's first non-stop flight - Singapore Airlines (SIA).
- ❖ Fulpati Festival – Nepal.
- ❖ Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge - The world's longest sea bridge.
- ❖ China's indigenously designed and built amphibious aircraft AG600 successfully carried out its first take-off and landing test.



- ❖ China to launch 'artificial moon'.



- ❖ In 2018 general elections of Bhutan, Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa emerged as the single largest majority party.
- ❖ India will host the fourth edition of Global Partners' Forum.
- ❖ Maeen Abdul Malek Saeed - New Prime Minister of Yemen.
- ❖ Druzhba III - joint bilateral military exercise between Pakistan and Russian special forces.
- ❖ The joint military exercise Iron Magic 19 between United Arab Emirates (UAE) and United States.
- ❖ Four-nation summit on Syria crisis - Turkey, France, Germany and Russia.
- ❖ Paul Biya re-elected as Cameroon's President.
- ❖ First trilateral meeting on Chabahar port project - India, Afghanistan and Iran.
- ❖ First female president – Ethiopia (ahle-Work Zewde).
- ❖ Trident Juncture 2018 - NATO's biggest military exercise.

- ❖ New Prime Minister of Sri Lanka - Mahinda Rajapaksha.



- ❖ Pakistan has announced that it would send a human to space for the first time in 2022 with the help of China.
- ❖ Michael D Higgins re-elected as Irish president.
- ❖ World's largest airport 'under one roof' - Istanbul, Turkey.
- ❖ Indus Food-II tradeshow will be held in Greater Noida on January 14-15, 2019.
- ❖ India's first Cryptocurrency ATM has been opened at the Kemp Fort Mall in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- ❖ SBI launches its first "Wealth Hub".
- ❖ 6-member panel set up to resolve stressed assets - Janki Ballabh.
- ❖ According to the 7th edition 'Word Cooperative Monitor' report 2018, fertilizer major IFFCO has been ranked as the biggest cooperative in the world.
- ❖ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the creation of FAIDF to double farmers' income by 2022.
- ❖ Japan Landed Rovers on Asteroid.
- ❖ The Mysuru city police have come up with Mysuraksha app to ensure the safety and security of auto and cab passengers.
- ❖ Microsoft India and Data Security Council of India have launched a new



programme called Cyber Shikshaa (focus on skilling women engineering graduates in the niche field of Cyber Security).

- ❖ Pakistan successfully test-fired Ghauri ballistic missile.
- ❖ Scientists from US claimed that they have developed world's first bioelectronic medicine.
- ❖ The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation has recently launched a chatbot "Ask Disha" to help its users answer various queries.
- ❖ Punjab launches 3 Mobile Apps to check Stubble Burning (i-Khet Machine, e-PEHaL, e-Prevent).
- ❖ A British-built spacecraft, Bepi Colombo was launched into space from the European space port in Kourou, French Guiana.
- ❖ The 27th Fusion Energy Conference (FEC 2018) was held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ❖ China has successfully tested the world's largest unmanned transport drone.
- ❖ PM launches "Main Nahin Hum" Portal and App - to help IT professionals and organizations.
- ❖ 1st UAE-made satellite launched from Japan.
- ❖ First Franco-Chinese satellite to study climate change.
- ❖ Citizen Science platform initiative was launched to save Hornbills in the Country.
- ❖ Zoological Society of London has named Vorombe Titan as World's Largest ever bird.

- ❖ The world's first lions conceived by artificial insemination have been born at Pretoria in South Africa.
- ❖ Geographical Indication tag - Alphonso mango (Maharashtra).
- ❖ National Dolphin Research Centre will be set up on the banks of the Ganga river in Patna University campus in Patna, capital of Bihar.
- ❖ According to the 'Status of Ambient Noise Level in India 2017' report, Delhi is ranked as the noisiest metro followed by Kolkata, Bengaluru and Chennai.
- ❖ Gujarat Forest Department has started vaccination of lions in Gir sanctuary to protect them from a deadly Canine Distemper Virus (CDV) and protozoa infections.
- ❖ Dravyavati River Rejuvenation Project – Rajasthan.
- ❖ India's first ever National Environment Survey (NES) will be kicked off from 55 districts across 24 states and three Union Territories in January, 2019.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has launched Harit Diwali-Swasth Diwali campaign.
- ❖ India's 1st Corn Festival – Madhya Pradesh.



- ❖ 52nd district of Madhya Pradesh – Niwari.



- ❖ Uttar Pradesh secured 1st place in the implementation of “Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana” by providing houses to 11 lakh poor families.
- ❖ Thiruvananthapuram is hosting the 8th Asian Yoga Sports Championship.
- ❖ Odisha has launched ‘Nirman Kusuma’ programme for providing financial assistance to the children of construction workers for their technical education in the state.
- ❖ Wage Compensation Scheme – Assam - for pregnant women working in the tea gardens.
- ❖ The Karnataka Department of Social Welfare has launched Unnati, a scheme to foster entrepreneurs working on rural and social impact technologies.
- ❖ Country's first biofuel plant – Odisha.
- ❖ International Film Festival – Goa.
- ❖ Haryana's first autism research centre – Gurugram.
- ❖ West Bengal Chief Minister, on the occasion of World Food Day (16th October), launched ‘Khadya Sathi’ scheme.
- ❖ GI Tag for Muzaffarpur’s Shahi Litchi.
- ❖ Kerala -the first smoke-free State.
- ❖ Assam celebrated its 3rd Bihu festival known as the ‘Kati Bihu’ or Kongali.
- ❖ Bihu festival across the state.
- ❖ Glyphosate banned in Punjab.
- ❖ Odisha CM has launched a new web portal of ‘Odia Virtual Academy’ to promote the Odia language and literature.
- ❖ UN refugee prize - South Sudanese surgeon Dr. Evan Atar Adaha.
- ❖ Chief Economist of IMF - Gita Gopinath.
- ❖ 2018 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine - James Allison of the U.S. and Tasuku Honjo of Japan.
- ❖ 2018 Nobel Physics Prize - Arthur Ashkin (USA), Gerard Mourou (France) and Donna Strickland (Canada).
- ❖ 2018 Nobel Chemistry Prize - US scientists Frances Arnold and George Smith and British researcher Gregory Winter.
- ❖ 2018 Nobel Peace Prize - Dr. Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad.
- ❖ Nobel Economics Prize 2018 - William D.Nordhaus and Paul M. Romer.
- ❖ Solicitor General - Tushar Mehta.
- ❖ India's first 'Miss Trans Queen' - Veena Sendre from Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ Anna Burns won the prestigious Man Booker Prize for fiction for her novel “Milkman”.
- ❖ Miss Deaf Asia 2018 - Haryana girl Nishtha Dudeja.
- ❖ Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award - Fali S. Nariman.
- ❖ The Seoul Peace Prize Committee has decided to confer 2018 Seoul Peace Prize on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ❖ 1st chief of National Financial Reporting Authority - Rangachari Sridharan.



NOVEMBER – 2018

- ❖ Permanent judges – Madras High Court - RMT. Teekaa Raman, N. Satish Kumar, N. Seshasayee.
- ❖ TN gets SEBI approval to launch State Shelter Fund.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu government will soon implement the biometric system of attendance for the teachers.
- ❖ India's First Open Air Library - Trichy city corporation.
- ❖ Tamilselvi – 3rd gender nurse - S. Tamilselvi.



- ❖ B Pugalenti - New Judge of the Madras High Court.
- ❖ The Heritage Electric Theatre, on the Anna Road Head Post Office campus, is soon going to turn into a Museum.
- ❖ Gaja cyclone - Central Committee - Daniel E Richard.
- ❖ The annual bilateral summit of India and Japan held on 28 & 29 October 2018 in Japan.
- ❖ Foundation Day of Indian states/ UT's – November 01 – Karnataka, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh,

Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Andaman & Nicobar.

- ❖ Statue of Unity - 3.2 kms downstream of Narmada Dam - October 31, 2018 - designed by Padma-Bhushan winning sculptor Ram V Sutar and was built by Larsen and Toubro and the state-run Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Ltd.
- ❖ Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) - India has been placed at 53rd.
- ❖ World Bank's 'Ease of Doing Business' - India has jumped 23 places to the 77th position.
- ❖ Clean Air Campaign - 01st to 10th November, 2018 was launched in Delhi by the Union Environment Minister to monitor and report polluting activities.
- ❖ Armies of India and Japan began their first-ever joint military exercise - Dharma Guardian 2018.
- ❖ Justices Hemant Gupta, R.Subhash Reddy, M.R.Shah and Ajay Rastogi were sworn in as judges of the Supreme Court.
- ❖ India's first indigenous nuclear submarine INS Arihant - tested successfully.
- ❖ ICGS Varaha was launched at L&T Kattupalli on November 02,2018.
- ❖ Maharashtra Cabinet approved the conversion of decommissioned carrier INS Viraat into India's first-ever moored maritime museum-cum-marine adventure centre.



- ❖ Operation Greens - Tomato, Onion and Potato.



- ❖ Mahila-E-Haat portal - for unique organic products of the women farmers and entrepreneurs from across the country.
- ❖ International Solar Alliance membership to all UN countries.
- ❖ The Supreme Court of India has recently given the nod for a separate High Court for Andhra Pradesh and it will start functioning from 1st January 2019.
- ❖ SIMBEX 2018 - Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise.
- ❖ The second edition of this year's (2018) bi-annual Naval Commanders' Conference was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ 'Samudra Shakti' - Bilateral Naval Exercise between India and Indonesia.
- ❖ November 11, 2018 marked the 100-year anniversary of the signing of the Armistice to end the First World War.
- ❖ The Prime Minister has inaugurated the country's first Multi-Modal Terminal on Ganga River in Varanasi.
- ❖ INDRA 2018 - joint military exercise between Indian and Russia.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare launched 'Yuva Sahakar-Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme' of National

Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).

- ❖ Ape fossil – Kutch Basin.
- ❖ The sixth Indian Social Work Congress was held at New Delhi.
- ❖ The Indian Navy has successfully completed the refitted Maldivian Coast Guard Ship (MCGS) Huravee at Naval Dockyard in Visakhapatnam.
- ❖ India's First Elephant Hospital - Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ 27th BASIC Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Jashne Bachpan - a theatre festival for children.
- ❖ 3 new members of National Commission for Women - Chandramukhi Devi, Soso Shaiza, and Kamlesh Gautam.
- ❖ Vajra Prahar - India, US Joint Special Forces Exercise 2018.
- ❖ Golden Jubilee episode - Mann Ki Baat - Sunday 25th November 2018.
- ❖ The Vice President of India laid the foundation stone for the construction of the Kartarpur corridor on Indian side at Mann village in Gurdaspur district, Punjab.
- ❖ Jair Bolsonaro - President of Brazil.
- ❖ Korea Marine Exercise Program (KMEP) - South Korea and the United States will resume battalion-level marine exercises.
- ❖ 5th World Buddhist Forum concluded in the city of Putian, east China's Fujian Province.
- ❖ Pakistan - China Luxury Bus Service.
- ❖ Alley in Volgodonsk named after Tamil Nadu's Kudankulam town.
- ❖ UNSC lifted sanctions against Eritrea.



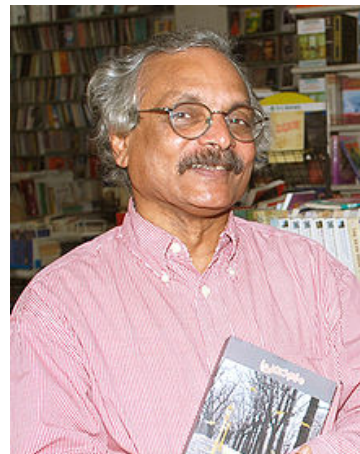
- ❖ The Morocco's first high-speed rail line, the first ever such line in Africa was unveiled at Tangier.
- ❖ Morocco successfully launched its second earth observation satellite named Mohammed VI-B.
- ❖ Voreqe Bainimarama re-elected as Fiji PM.
- ❖ India's first interactive Credit Card with buttons - The IndusInd Bank.
- ❖ NASA retires Kepler Space Telescope.
- ❖ India successfully conducted the night trial of the indigenously developed nuclear capable Agni-I ballistic missile.
- ❖ World's first AI (Artificial Intelligence) News anchor – china.
- ❖ The researchers from IIT Madras have designed India's first indigenous microprocessor called 'Shakti'.
- ❖ GSAT-29 satellite launched successfully.



- ❖ NASA's Ralph is set to journey with the Lucy mission to Jupiter's Trojan asteroids by 2021.
- ❖ NIPUN - e-learning portal for training Delhi Police.
- ❖ KOOL - Online Open Learning training platform.



- ❖ 'Artificial Sun' – China.
- ❖ 'NSE goBID' - National Stock Exchange of India - retail investors to buy government securities.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has launched 'PAiSA' Portal, a portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access.
- ❖ First ever WHO Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health took place in Geneva from 30 October to 1 November 2018.
- ❖ The Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) for Asia and Africa has termed the Cyclone "Titli" as 'rarest of rare'.
- ❖ 2018 Sangai Festival – Manipur.
- ❖ India's First Robotic Dinosaurs Gallery – Punjab.
- ❖ Bathymetric Survey of the Dal-Nageen lake – jammu and Kashmir.
- ❖ India's first Justice city – Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Writer M Mukundan - Ezhuthachan Puraskaram- Kerala.



- ❖ Tamil Nadu has received an award from the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for recording one of the highest annual declines in the Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR) between 2015 and 2016.



- ❖ Signature Bridge- Delhi.
- ❖ Delhi govt has announced the Mukhya Mantri Tirath Yatra Yojna that offers free of cost travel packages for five key religious circuits for senior citizens of Delhi.
- ❖ Hockey World Cup song – Odia - Bollywood singer Mika Singh.
- ❖ On November 06, 2018 Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced that Faizabad district will be renamed Ayodhya.
- ❖ The Election Commission has set up ‘Sangwari’ polling booths in various constituencies of Chhattisgarh to encourage women voters to exercise their franchise in the Assembly elections.
- ❖ ‘Mo bus’ service – Odisha.
- ❖ Aquaculture Mission 2.0 – Meghalaya.
- ❖ ‘Bhubaneswar Me Wifi’ project – Odisha.
- ❖ The Odisha Government has launched Saura Jalnidhi scheme to encourage use of solar energy in irrigation by farmers.
- ❖ The Karnataka Social Welfare Department has formally launched the Samruddhi scheme in the state.
- ❖ North East’s first ‘water handloom hut’ – Manipur.
- ❖ Rosogolla Day (West Bengal) – 14 November.
- ❖ Gau Samridhi Plus scheme – kerala.
- ❖ Nongkrem dance festival – Meghalaya.
- ❖ Indo-Japan Business Council - KONNACHI WA PUNE Festival concluded in Pune, Maharashtra.
- ❖ 3rd state to ban hookah bars or lounges – Punjab.
- ❖ The Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar unveiled 70-foot tall statue of Lord Buddha at Rajgir in Nalanda district of Bihar state.
- ❖ Gujarat topped in implementing Ayushman Bharat.
- ❖ Gleitsman Award 2018 - Malala Yousafzai.
- ❖ Dr.Ramdas M Pai was awarded the 'Lifetime Achievement Award 2018' by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- ❖ Notes of a Dream: The Authorized Biography - AR Rahman's biography.
- ❖ Mathematician and Super 30 founder Anand Kumar was honoured with 'Global Education Award'.
- ❖ Kim Jong Yang of South Korea was elected as the new Interpol President.
- ❖ UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador - Millie Bobby Brown.
- ❖ The President has appointed senior IAS officer Sunil Arora as the new Chief Election Commissioner (CEC).
- ❖ The President has appointed Arvind Saxena as the Chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
- ❖ Anupam Kher resigns as Chairman of FTIL.
- ❖ Chief guest - 2019 Republic Day parade of India - The South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.





DECEMBER – 2018

- ❖ TN Receives Best performance award - Organ Donation Programme.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government hiked the health insurance cover under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS) from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 5 lakh.
- ❖ Tejas Express - Indian Railways (Chennai and Madurai).



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has set up an animal welfare board with chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami as its chairman.
- ❖ Eminent agriculturalist Jayaraman - protecting more than 169 paddy varieties – Books: Nellathikaram and Mamarunthagum Parampariya Nel. He also launched “Save Our Rice” campaign and organised paddy festival (every may) at his native village Adirangam in Tiruvarur district in 2005.
- ❖ Best Woman Parliamentarian Award - DMK MP Kanimozhi.
- ❖ Subramania Bharathi's 136th birth anniversary is celebrated on 11th December 2018.
- ❖ Coimbatore-based designer and stylist Shamyuktha Prem was crowned the 'Mrs India Universe Globe 2018'.
- ❖ TN launches 24x7 helpline '181' for women.

- ❖ India's first underwater museum - INS Cuddalore.
- ❖ December 25, 2018 marks the 50th anniversary of the Keezhavenmani massacre.
- ❖ The Retired Madras High Court Judge K. Venkataraman has been appointed to head the 3-member Lokayukta Search Committee.
- ❖ Meghdoot Awards 2018 – From Tamil nadu 1) Ms Srividya Iyer - Best Woman Employee. 2) K.Ganapathy - Best Post Man.
- ❖ 6th India Skills Report – Andhra Pradesh topped the list of states.
- ❖ The Union Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched 'Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti' to boost the Intellectual Property Right (IPR) culture in indigenous defence industry.
- ❖ Sahitya Academy awards - S. Ramakrishnan for his novel Sancharam.
- ❖ Conference of Parties (COP-24) was held at Katowice, Poland with the theme of 'One World One Sun One Grid'.
- ❖ Rajiv Kumar Committee - to look at selling as many as 149 small and marginal oil and gas fields.
- ❖ SHINYUU Maitri 18 - Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) and the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- ❖ TROPEX 2019 - The Indian Navy will conduct its flagship large-scale coastal defence exercise Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise.
- ❖ A major large-scale tri-service exercise, Madad 2018, was conducted.



- ❖ Special Courts in Bihar/Kerala – Supreme Court.
- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard (IGC) has conducted the Regional Level Marine Oil Pollution Response Exercise titled ‘Clean Sea - 2018’ at sea off Port Blair.
- ❖ The service specific exercise AVIANDRA between the Indian Air Force and the Russian Federation Aerospace Force (RFSAF) was held at the Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
- ❖ The Union Cabinet has approved the first ever Agriculture Export Policy, 2018 with the aim to double farmer’s income by 2022.
- ❖ Conference on ‘Good Governance- Focus on Aspirational Districts’ – Kerala.
- ❖ 1st International Conference on Sustainable Water Management – Punjab.
- ❖ The Indian Coast Guard has recently launched ‘Operation Oliva’.
- ❖ The World Economic Forum has recently released the Global Gender Gap Report for the year 2018. India has come at 108th position.
- ❖ Strategy for New India@75 – NITI Aayog.
- ❖ National Cancer Institute (NCI) – Haryana.
- ❖ Best performing states under PMMVY - Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ The PM of India inaugurated the Bogibeel Bridge on the birth anniversary of the late Atal Bihari Vajpayee i.e. December 25 which is observed as “Good Governance Day”.
- ❖ A new Coastal Research Vessel SAGAR TARA was launched at the Titagarh Wagons Ltd. Shipyard in Kolkata.
- ❖ The 26th National Children’s Science Congress was inaugurated recently by Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik.
- ❖ The 5-day long 42nd Indian Social Science Congress at the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology campus in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- ❖ Three islands in Andaman & Nicobar renamed - Ross Island (old name) - Netaji Subhash. Chandra Bose Island; Neil Island (old name) - Shaheed Dweep; Havelock Island (old name) - Swaraj Dweep.
- ❖ International Rice Research Institute – Varanasi.
- ❖ The 12th biennial World Congress on Mountain Medicine was held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ India will Chair Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) from 1st January 2019.
- ❖ The first Sustainable Blue Economy Conference was held in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya.
- ❖ For the first time, India will host the annual G20 summit in 2022 (17th).
- ❖ Recently, the Global Wage Report 2018/19 has been published by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).
- ❖ Global Climate Risk Index 2019 - India was ranked as the 14th most vulnerable country.
- ❖ 1st Latin American nation to join BRI – Panama.
- ❖ The Asia Pacific Summit 2018 was held at Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ❖ First country to make public transport free – Luxembourg.



- ❖ Australia criminalises orphanage trafficking.
- ❖ The Slovenia's government has appointed a female officer Major General Alenka Ermenc as the head of the armed forces.
- ❖ UK Suspends 'Golden Visa' Scheme.
- ❖ Legislation to ease labour shortage – Japan.
- ❖ Kazakhstan opens consulate in Gujarat.
- ❖ Nepal bans Indian currency notes above Rs 100.
- ❖ 1st country in the world to deliver drone-assisted Vaccines – Vanuatu.
- ❖ The government of Burundi has declared Gitega as the country's new political capital.
- ❖ The Japanese government has officially announced to withdraw from the International Whaling Commission (IWC).
- ❖ Israel becomes a member of the FATF.
- ❖ ISRO successfully launches earth observation satellite HysIS.



- ❖ Nasa's InSight probe lands on Mars.
- ❖ India's first privately built satellite - ExseedSAT 1.
- ❖ Soyuz - first manned mission - which carries Russian, American and Canadian astronauts successfully docked at the International Space Station (ISS).
- ❖ eDrishti software - to keep the track of punctuality of train.

- ❖ Karnataka Nuclear Reactor Sets Global Record - completed a continuous run of 941 days.
- ❖ Military Communication Satellite GSAT-7A.
- ❖ The Haryana Government has launched a mobile app named as 'Shiksha Setu' with an aim to help the students of the state.
- ❖ SpaceX's first US military satellite launched - 'GPS III'.
- ❖ The isolated central Asian country, Turkmenistan, has launched its own and the first Turkmen messaging app BizBarde.
- ❖ Odisha's Kandhamal Haldi – GI Tag.
- ❖ India's highest tiger habitat - The Dibang valley of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ An international conference on bears was organised in Agra for the first time.
- ❖ Mount Soputan volcano erupted – Indonesia.
- ❖ Silao Khaja gets GI tag – Nalanda district.
- ❖ Indonesia hit by Volcanic Tsunami - Anak Krakatau.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh has notified the 'Kuno Palpur Wildlife Sanctuary' as a National park.
- ❖ Nari Sashaktikaran Sankalp Abhiyan - Women Empowerment campaign - Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ West Bengal celebrated the annual three-day long 'Jangalmahal' festival.
- ❖ 5-day exhibition on 'Our Vote- Our Future' – Hyderabad.
- ❖ Hornbill Festival – Nagaland.
- ❖ The Odisha Chief Minister has launched a new programme for transparency and



awareness on various government schemes, called- the Peoples Empowerment Enabling Transparency and Accountability or PEETHA.

- ❖ The Indian Owl Festival 2018 was held at Pingori village in Purandar taluka of Pune, Maharashtra.
- ❖ First Muslim mayor of Kolkata since Independence - Firhad Hakim.
- ❖ The International Gita Festival 2018 was organised at Kurukshetra in Haryana (December 03-07).
- ❖ The Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and the Union Civil Aviation Minister Suresh Prabhu jointly inaugurated the Kannur International Airport Ltd.
- ❖ Shi Yomi - 23rd district of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The Delhi government has launched a 10-day special inspection drive named “Operation Minimum Wage”.
- ❖ Mizoram Chief Minister – Zoramthanga.
- ❖ Jharkhand gets “Krishi Karman” award.
- ❖ Chief Minister of Rajasthan - Ashok Gehlot.
- ❖ Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh - Bhupesh Baghel.
- ❖ Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh - Kamal Nath.
- ❖ International Film Festival of Kerala.
- ❖ The Maharashtra State government has recently issued directions on sanctioning childcare leave to male employees.
- ❖ Odisha has recently announced the Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA) scheme aims to empower small, marginal &



landless farmers as well as landless labourers.

- ❖ ‘Dwijing Festival’ – Assam.
- ❖ Atal Ayushman Uttarakhand Yojana.
- ❖ Permanent NDRF Battalion For Arunachal.



- ❖ The Government of Madhya Pradesh has announced setting up of a new Adhyatmik Vibhag (spiritual department).
- ❖ Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development 2018 - Centre for Science and Environment (CSE).
- ❖ Golden Peacock award – Donbass.
- ❖ Former US President George HW Bush Sr passed away.
- ❖ International Green Apple Award - Manipal Academy of Higher Education.
- ❖ 3rd Sayaji Ratna Award - Amitabh Bachchan.
- ❖ Preeti Saran elected to UN’s socio-economic, cultural panel.
- ❖ Glinka World Soil Prize 2018 - Rattan Lal.
- ❖ Miss World 2018 - Mexico’s Vanessa Ponce de Leon.
- ❖ Shaktikanta Das - 25th Governor of RBI.
- ❖ Vice-Chair of UN Panel of Auditors - Rajiv Mehrishi.



- ❖ Miss India Worldwide 2018 - The Indian-American Shree Saini.
- ❖ The Renowned English fiction writer Amitav Ghosh has been selected for Jnanpith award, 2018.
- ❖ Miss Universe 2018 Title - Catriona Elisa Gray from the Philippines.
- ❖ The Union government has appointed advocate Madhavi Goradia Divan as the Additional Solicitor General in the government of India.



- ❖ Popular singers Shaan and Arijit Singh were given the “Sangeet Mahasamman” award by the West Bengal government.
- ❖ Tamil writer Prapanchan passed away.
- ❖ The President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev has been selected as “Asian of the Year” for 2018 by the Asia Journalist Association.
- ❖ India gifts e-rickshaws to Senegal.
- ❖ “Heart Attack Rewind” - media campaign – FSSAI.
- ❖ Mrinal Sen passed away – filmmaker.