

GENERAL AWARENESS–CURRENT AFFAIRS

MONTH OF APRIL–2018

List of Important Days

- April 1** - 7 - Prevention of Blindness Week
- April 1** - Utkala Dibasa (Odisha Day)
- April 2** - World Autism Awareness Day.
(Theme - “Empowering women and girls with autism”)
- April 2** - International Children's Book Day.
- April 4** - International Day of Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.
(Theme - “Advancing Protection, Peace and Development”)
- April 5** - India’s National Maritime Day.
(Theme - “Indian Shipping - An Ocean of opportunity”)
- April 5** - Samta Diwas. (The birth anniversary of nationalist politician Babu Jagjivan Ram)
- April 6** - International Day of Sport for Development and Peace.
- April 7** - World Health Day. (Theme - “Universal health coverage: everyone, everywhere”)
- April 10** - World Homoeopathy Day.
- April 10-16-** World Homeopathy Awareness Week.
- April 11** - National Safe Motherhood Day. (Theme - “Respectful Maternity Care”)
- April 12** - International Day of Human Space Flight/ Cosmonautics Day
- International Day of Aviation and Cosmonautics.
- April 17** - World Hemophilia Day. (Theme - “Sharing Knowledge Makes Us Stronger”)
- April 18** - International Day for Monuments and Sites (World Heritage Day)
(Theme - “Heritage for Generations”)
- April 19** - World Liver Day (WLD)
(Theme - “Riding New Waves in Liver Diagnosis, Staging & Treatment”)
- April 22** - 48th International Earth Day. (Theme - “End Plastic Pollution”)
- April 23** - World Book Day or World Book and Copyright Day.
- April 23** - UN English Language Day.
- April 24** - World Lab Animal Day.
- April 24** - Pinhole Photography day.
- April 24** - National Panchayati Raj Day.
- April 25** - World Malaria Day. (Theme - “Ready to beat malaria”)
- April 26** - World Intellectual Property Day.
(Theme - “Powering Change: Women in Innovation and Creativity”)
- April 28** - Workers' Memorial Day/World Day for Safety and Health at Work.
(Theme - “Unionized workplaces are safer workplaces”).
- April 29** - International Dance Day/World Dance Day.
- April 29** - Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare.
- April 30** - International Jazz Day.
- April 30** - National Anti-Child Labor Day.

Reserve Bank of India

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has **dropped Axis Bank** from the list of banks it has **cleared** to **import gold** and **silver** in the current fiscal that began April 1.
 - Two other banks, **Karur Vysya Bank** and **South Indian Bank**, were also dropped from the list.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has kept the **Repo rate** (the rate at which banks borrow from RBI) **unchanged** at **6%** during its **1st bi-monthly monetary policy review** of 2018-19.
 - This is the **4th time** in a row the repo rate has been kept steady at 6%, its lowest since November 2010.
 - **Reverse Repo Rate** under the **LAF** remains at **5.75%**.
 - **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF)** rate as well as the **Bank Rate** stands at **6.25%**.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that it is looking at the **possibility of introducing** a central bank backed **Digital Currency**.
 - The RBI has said that any entity regulated by it like banks shall be barred from providing services to any individual or business dealing in **Bitcoin** and other **Cryptocurrencies**.
 - The central bank has given 3 months to banks to exit their relationship with such entities.
 - The RBI has directed all **payment system operators in India** to **store data within the country** to ensure the **security** of users' information.
 - The operators have been given 6 months' time to comply with the directive of the central bank.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) switched back to **Gross Domestic Product (GDP) model** from the **Gross Value Added (GVA)** methodology to provide its estimate of economic activity in the country.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has placed **11 Public Sector Banks (PSBs)** out of 21 State-owned banks under its **Prompt Corrective Action (PCA)** framework because of deteriorating performance.
 - The 11 banks are: Allahabad Bank, Bank of India (BoI), Bank of Maharashtra (BoM), Central Bank of India, Corporation Bank, Dena Bank, IDBI Bank, Indian Overseas Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC), UCO Bank, United Bank of India.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a **penalty of Rs.3 crore** on **IDBI Bank** for failing to comply with norms related to reporting **bad loans**.
 - In July 2017, IDBI Bank had under-reported Rs.6,816.6 crore of bad loans for FY16, which were subsequently identified by the RBI.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) tightened reporting norms for the **Liberalized Remittance Scheme (LRS)** under which an individual can transfer up to USD 2,50,000 abroad in a year.
 - Now banks will be required to upload **daily transaction-wise information** undertaken by them under LRS.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that **India's forex** (foreign exchange) reserves have touched record high of **\$424.864 billion** in April 2018.
- A parliamentary panel has summoned RBI Governor **Urjit Patel** to appear before it on May 17 to answer queries on the recently **unearthed banking scams**.
 - Patel had earlier said that the RBI doesn't have adequate powers to deal with public sector banks.
- The **Indian Government** along with the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has launched 1st tranche of **Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs)** for current fiscal (FY 2018-19).
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has revised its **Know Your Customer (KYC)** guidelines, making **Aadhaar key** to conducting customer due diligence by banks and finance companies.
- In a bid to facilitate cheaper access of overseas funds Reserve Bank of India (RBI) further liberalized **External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) Policy** by including more sectors in the window.

State Bank of India

- The State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the launch of its UK subsidiary, **SBI (UK) Limited**, with an initial capital commitment of **225 million pounds** from its parent entity.

Other Banks

- **Jio Payments Bank** has commenced operations with effect from **3rd April 2018**.
 - It is a joint venture of **Reliance Industries (RIL)** and **State Bank of India (SBI)**.
 - RIL held a 70% stake and SBI has 30% stake.
- Leading private lender **ICICI Bank** announced the launch of a first-of-its-kind service titled '**Social Pay; Social Pay enables Non Resident Indians (NRIs)** to send money to a beneficiary in India using social media platforms like **WhatsApp** and **e-mail**.
- India's largest private sector lender **ICICI Bank** became 1st Indian bank to go live on **SWIFT's** (Society for World Interbank Financial Telecommunication System) **Global Payment Innovation (GPI)**, an improved cross border payments service.
- The Mumbai-based **Kotak Mahindra Bank** led by Asia's richest banker **Uday Kotak** became **India's second-largest bank** by market **capitalization** surpassing India's largest bank by asset **State Bank of India** to grab the spot.
- The Union Cabinet has approved the promulgation of the **Fugitive Economic Offenders Ordinance**, which will empower authorities to seize assets of economic offenders who flee India.
 - The ordinance is aimed at forcing offenders to return to India to face prosecution.
- Private sector lender **HDFC Bank** has reported a **20.2%** year-on-year increase in profit to **Rs.4,799 crore** for the **March** quarter.
 - The bank's net interest income during the quarter rose by **17.7%** year-on-year to **Rs.10,657.7 crore**.
- In a bid to grow its deposits, **HDFC Bank** has **hiked interest rates** on term deposits by up to **100 basis points** (1 percentage point).
 - Following the increase, the bank is offering a flat **return of 7per cent** on all maturities of over one year, while **senior citizens** can earn up to **7.5 per cent** and bulk depositors (Rs 1 crore and above) get even more.
- The **Directorate General of Goods and Services Tax Intelligence (DGGST)** issued show cause notices to India's top banks including **State Bank of India (SBI)**, **ICICI Bank**, **HDFC Bank**, **Kotak Mahindra Bank** and **Axis Bank**, demanding them to pay **service tax**, **penalties** and **interests** on the **free services** provided to their customers.

Insurance

- The government has held preliminary meetings on proposed merger process of **three state-owned general insurers** namely **Oriental Insurance Company Ltd (OICL)**, **National Insurance Company Ltd (NICL)**, and **United India Insurance Company Ltd (UICL)**.
 - The three insurers together collected a premium of about **Rs.44,000 crore** in the financial year 2017 and their combined market share was nearly **35%** in the general insurance market.

Supreme Court

- The **UIDAI** has told the Supreme Court that it has imposed a **penalty** on **Airtel** and **Axis Bank** for breaching terms attached to **Aadhaar authentication**.

High Courts and Sessions Courts

- A **Jodhpur** court has sentenced Bollywood Actor **Salman Khan** to **5 years in prison** and imposed a fine of **Rs.10,000** in the 1998 **blackbuck poaching** case.
 - Other actors **Saif Ali Khan**, **Tabu**, **Sonali Bendre** and **Neelam**, who were the co-accused in the case, were acquitted.

- **Gujarat High Court** acquitted former BJP minister **Maya Kodnani**, the key accused in the **Naroda Patiya** case during the 2002 Gujarat riots.
- The **Madras High Court** became 1st court in south India and overall eighth in the country to introduce **e-court fee payment facility**.
- A **Jodhpur court** sentenced self-styled godman **Asaram** to life imprisonment after he was convicted of raping a minor girl in his ashram in 2013.
- A **Pakistan High Court** disqualified Foreign Minister **Khawaja Asif** as an MP for holding a **UAE work permit**.

Central Government

- The **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** has issued a circular directing **all states and union territories** to **avoid using the words 'Dalit' and 'Harijan' in official communications**.
 - The term '**Scheduled Caste**' should be used for denoting people belonging to the category.
- The Union government has **banned** imports of **hormone oxytocin** to stop its misuse in livestock industry, where it causes hormonal imbalances and shortens the lives of milch animals.
- The Indian government has **amended Income Tax rules** to recognize **transgenders** as an independent category of applicants for obtaining a **Permanent Account Number (PAN)**.
- Amid reports of cash shortage in certain states, the government has decided to increase the printing of **Rs.500 notes** by **five times**.

States

- **Bihar** government has reduced the **fee for women candidates** appearing for the **examinations** conducted by **Bihar Public Service Commission** and **Bihar Staff Selection Commission** by nearly **75%**.
- In a bid to use technology for benefit of farmers, the **Tamil Nadu** Government launched bi-lingual '**Uzhavan**' (farmer) mobile application.
- **Himachal Pradesh** was celebrating its 71st Himachal Day on April 15.
- The **Andhra Pradesh** government launched a new scheme titled '**Chandranna Pelli Kanuka**' welfare scheme.
 - Under this scheme **Rs.75,000** will be paid to an **SC/ST bride** marrying a groom of a different cast.
 - **Rs.50,000** to a **Backward Class bride** if she has an **inter caste marriage**.
 - **Rs.1 lakh** to be paid if either or both the **bride and bridegroom** are **physically challenged**.
- **Delhi** has become the **1st Indian city** to approve a **policy directing power distribution companies** to provide **Rs.50** to residents for the second hour of an unscheduled power cut and **Rs.100** for every subsequent hour.
- **Diu Smart City** has become 1st city in India to run on **100% renewable energy** during **daytime**.
- The **Uttar Pradesh Tourism department** launched its first **24x7 helpline** (18601801364) for **tourists**.
- The **Kerala State Human Rights Commission** issued a directive to the regional office of the **Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)** to add a **warning** as **violence against women** is a punishable offence.
 - **Malayalam films** will be displaying a statutory warning while showing scenes that depict violence against women.

Place in the News

- IPL chairman **Rajeev Shukla** has confirmed that remaining matches scheduled in **Chennai** will be shifted due to the **Cauvery protests in Tamil Nadu**.

- **Athens** chosen as the **World Book Capital 2018**.
 - **Sharjah** named **World Book Capital** for the year **2019**.

Personalities

- A month after **Uttar Pradesh**, the **Bihar** government has also announced its decision to introduce '**Ramji**' as the **middle name** to **BR Ambedkar** in government and court records.
 - The decision came on Ambedkar's 127th birth anniversary.
- A village in **Pakistan's Rawalpindi** has been named after **Nobel Peace Prize** winner **Malala Yousafzai**.
- Defence Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** and External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** were the only lady ministers who attended the 8-member **Shanghai Cooperation Organization's** defence and foreign ministers' meetings.
- **Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling** became the **longest-serving Chief Minister in India**, surpassing the record of **Jyoti Basu**, who served as **West Bengal CM** from 1977 to 2000.
 - Chamling, who belongs to the Sikkim Democratic Front, became the Chief Minister in December 1994.

Defence and National Security

- Despite the **sanctions imposed** by the **US** on **defence trade** with **Russia**, **India** has decided to continue negotiations with Russia to acquire a missile defence system at a cost of over Rs.30,000 crore.
- **Japan** has activated its **1st Marine** unit since World War II to counter invaders occupying the country's islands along the East China Sea.
 - This comes after **China**, which also claims the group of islands, announced \$175 billion for defence in its budget for 2018.
- The **UK** has opened a **naval base** in **Bahrain** which will host around 300 British troops and support personnel.
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** was conducted its biggest ever combat exercise titled **Gagan Shakti 2018** along **Pakistan** and **China** borders from 10th to 23rd April 2018.
- The **US** has approved a **\$1.3-billion** artillery sale to **Saudi Arabia**, including 180 Paladin howitzer systems and artillery-firing vehicles.
 - The deals come as Saudi Crown Prince **Mohammed bin Salman** made his first official visit to the US.
- **India, South Korea** joint anti-piracy, search and rescue exercise '**Sahyog-Hyeoblyeog 2018**' was recently held at **Bay of Bengal** off the **Chennai** coast in **Tamil Nadu**.
- The joint military exercise between **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** and **Malaysia** titled "**Desert Tiger V**" was recently held.
 - Aim: To share expertise and to enhance joint military actions in Dubai, UAE.
- **China** conducted its **Largest Naval Parade** in history, with more than 10,000 personnel along with 48 vessels and 76 aircraft taking part in the country's apparent show of force.
 - It was the 1st naval parade held in the **South China Sea**.
- The **Home Ministry** has issued a gazetted notification **removing** the **Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA)**, 1958 across the state of **Meghalaya**.
 - The ministry also reduced the act from **16** to **eight** police stations in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- A 2-day coastal security exercise '**Sagar Kavach**' was held along **Kerala** coast.
 - Aim: To strengthen and assess the loopholes in the coastal security mechanism.

- The **Indian** and **Malaysian** armies hold a two-week military exercise titled '**Harimau Shakti 2018**' on April 30 in **Malaysia** as part of efforts to bolster defence cooperation.
 - The joint exercise will take place in the dense forests of **Sengai Perdik in Hulu Langat district of Malaysia**.
- The **Indian Navy** has inducted the **third ship** of the **Landing Craft Utility (LCU) Mk-IV** project at **Port Blair**.
 - The ship was commissioned as INLCU L53 by Vice **Admiral Bimal Verma**, commander-in-chief, Andaman & Nicobar Command, of the Indian Armed Forces' tri-service command.
- The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)**, Defence Ministry's highest decision-making body on procurement, chaired by Defence Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** cleared capital acquisition proposals of **DRDO's NAG missile system (NAMIS)** for **Indian Army** and 127 mm calibre guns for **Indian Navy**.
- **India** and **Pakistan** are going to take part in a **Counter-Terror Military Exercise** alongside member nations of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)** in **Russia's Ural mountains** in September.
- **Indigenously developed Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas** successfully fired Derby air-to-air beyond visual range missile (BVRM) off the **Goa** coast.
 - The successful test demonstrated its overall capability as effective supersonic combat jet.

Committees/Commissions

- The **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)** has constituted 5-member committee to **examine Taxation aspects** related to **High Net Worth Individuals (HNWIs)** who are **migrating abroad** to other jurisdictions.
 - Head of this Committee: **Pragya Sahay Saksena**
- The **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** has constituted 12-member committee to review enforcement of **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** provisions under Companies Act, 2013.
 - Head of this Committee: **Manmohan Juneja**
- The Union Government has constituted 13-Member Task Force to prepare **road map** and **fast-track implementation of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) technology or drones** in the country.
 - Head of this Committee: **Jayant Sinha** [Minister of State (MoS) for Civil Aviation]
- To formulate military and security strategy, the Centre is going to set up the **Defence Planning Committee (DPC)**.
 - The committee will be a permanent body and it will prepare draft national security strategy besides undertaking strategic defence review and formulating international defence engagement strategy.
 - Head of Defence Planning Committee (DPC): **Ajit Doval** (National Security Adviser)
- To prevent sexual harassment against women at the workplace, the **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** has formed a 4-member internal complaints committee.
 - Members of this Committee: Karina Kripalani, Saba Karim, Rupawati Rao, and Veena Gowda.
- The committee on **Inter-country removal & retention of children** has submitted its report to Smt. **Maneka Sanjay Gandhi** (Minister for Women and Child Development).
 - Along with its recommendation, Committee has also submitted draft legislation- **International Child Abduction bill** to the Government.
 - Head of this Committee: Justice **Rajesh Bindal**

Schemes/Initiatives

- **Ministry of Tourism** along with the **Ministry of Culture and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** had launched a new project titled **Adopt a Heritage Project**.

- Under Adopt a Heritage Project, selected **public sector companies, private sector companies** and individuals will develop tourist amenities at **heritage sites**.
- They will be called as '**Monument Mitra**' and adopt the sites essentially under their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activity.
- The **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** has launched the **beta version** of its **Virtual ID service** to also mask the unique 12-digit **Aadhaar number** with a randomly generated **16-digit Virtual ID**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and his **Nepalese** counterpart **KP Oli** jointly laid foundation stone of the 900 MW **Arun III hydropower project** to be built in Nepal's eastern part.
- The **Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** has launched **Ganga Hariteema Yojana** (also known as Ganga Greenery scheme) in 27 districts of the state located on the bank of river Ganga.
- The Union Government was launched **GOBARdhan Yojna** nationally from **Karnal** district of **Haryana** by end of April 2018.
 - **GOBAR** - Galvanising Organic Bio Agro Resources.
- On the occasion of **Ambedkar Jayanti**, PM **Narendra Modi** launched the 1st phase of the government's ambitious **Ayushman Bharat healthcare programme** by inaugurating its first wellness centre in **Chhattisgarh's Bijapur**.
 - The programme is aimed at creating a network of 1.5 lakh health and wellness centers at an estimated cost of Rs.1200 crore.
- **Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises** has announced that it has extended Phase-1 of **FAME India Scheme** to provide financial support to electric and hybrid vehicles by another 6 months (till 30 September 2018) or till launch of phase-II.
 - **FAME India: Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid &) Electric Vehicles India**
 - This scheme was launched in the year 2015 under National Electric Mobility Mission (NEMM).
 - Aim of FAME India Scheme: To promote eco-friendly vehicles in the country.
- The Union Government launched "**Gram Swaraj Abhiyan Special Interventions (GSA-SI)**", a high-intensity outreach programme to deliver welfare schemes to select **villages** which need particular attention.
 - The program aims for 100% **coverage of seven schemes** launched by Central Government for eligible beneficiaries in three-week window from April 14 to May 5, 2018.
- To allow foreign **tourists and travelers** to avail of **paperless and cashless visa-related services**, the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** has launched web-based application **e-FRRO** (e-Foreigners Regional Registration Office).
- **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** has launched **FIEO GlobalLinker**, a digital platform for **MSME exporters** to digitize their businesses and join global community of growing businesses.
 - **FIEO** - Federation of Indian Export Organizations.
- With a view to achieve total **digitization of postal operations** in the country, under the IT Modernization Plan, **Department of Posts** has launched **DIGITAL ADVANCEMENT OF RURAL POST OFFICE FOR A NEW INDIA (DARPAN)** Project.
 - Aim: To connect all 1.29 lakh Rural Branch Post Offices in the country and to enable them to do online Postal and Financial Transactions.
- The **Group of Ministers (GoM)** constituted by **Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** has proposed **One Nation One Tax policy** for seamless movement of commercial vehicles across the country.
 - The GoM is headed by **Yoonus Khan** (Rajasthan transport minister).
- The cabinet has approved restructured **Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)** aimed at making **rural local bodies self-sustainable**, financially stable and more efficient.

- The **Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** has decided to roll out '**Integrated initiative for prevention & control of viral hepatitis**' under **National Health Mission (NHM)** for prevention and control of viral hepatitis.
 - India is committed to eliminating the viral hepatitis by **2030**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has launched the **Rashtriya Gramin Swaraj Abhiyan** from **Madhya Pradesh's Mandla**.
- **NITI Aayog** launched **Atal New India Challenge** encouraging innovation in **various sectors**.
 - Under the Atal New India Challenge, which shall be run in collaboration with five ministries, the organization will invite prospective innovators/MSMEs/start-ups to design market ready products, using cutting edge technologies or prototypes across 17 identified focus areas such as Climate Smart Agriculture, Smart Mobility, Predictive Maintenance of Rolling Stock, Waste Management etc.
- PM **Narendra Modi** launched the **Van Dhan Scheme of Ministry of Tribal Affairs** and **TRIFED** at **Bijapur, Chattisgarh**.
 - Aim - To provide skill up gradation and capacity building training and setting up of primary processing and value addition facility.
 - Under Van Dhan, 10 Self Help Groups of 30 Tribal gatherers are constituted.
- The HRD ministry launched the second edition of the **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan** under which students from 750 higher educational institutions from across the country will adopt villages and visit them to get acquainted with lifestyle of people there and the problems faced by them.

Summit/Conference

- A 2-day **Scientific Convention** was organized in **New Delhi** by **Ministry of AYUSH** on the occasion of **World Homoeopathy Day**.
 - Theme - "Innovate: Evolve; Progress: Exploring Science since 40 years".
- The 8th edition of **Theatre Olympics** concluded in **Mumbai**, Maharashtra after glorious run of 51 days across 17 cities of India and showcasing **rich heritage and culture** across length and breadth of the country.
- The 8th **Regional 3R Forum in Asia and Pacific Region** was held in **Indore, Madhya Pradesh**.
 - This forum was co-organized by **Ministry of Housing and Affairs, Japan's Environment Ministry**, and **United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)**.
 - Theme: "Achieving Clean Water, Clean Land and Clean Air through 3R and Resource Efficiency- A 21st Century Vision for Asia-Pacific Communities".
- **Mauritius** is going to host the 11th edition of **World Hindi Conference** in its capital city **Port Lois** in August 18-20, 2018.
 - Theme - "Vaishvik Hindi Aur Bharatiy Sanskriti".
- The **India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018** was concluded at **New Delhi** on April 17.
 - The conference was hosted by the **Ministry of External Affairs** in cooperation with the **Government of Germany** and the **United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)**.
 - Theme - 'Securing Global Supply Chains through Government-Industry Partnerships towards Effective Implementation of UNSC Resolution 1540'.
- To address outstanding water resources issues, the 1st regional **conference of eastern states on Water Resources** was held in **Kolkata, West Bengal**.
 - The conference focused on finding solution to mitigate intra and intra-basin issues relating to water resources in **Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal**.
- The **Asia Pacific Regional Workshop of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)** was recently held at **New Delhi**.
 - The four day workshop was jointly hosted by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and UNCCD.

- Aim - Building capacity of Asia-Pacific Region to monitor and report on land degradation.

Agreement/Deal/Signed

- **SoftBank** has signed a **\$930-million** deal with **China's energy conglomerate Golden Concord (GCL)** to produce and sell **solar equipment** in **India**.
- The Union Cabinet has approved Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between **India** and **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** on **Technical Cooperation in Rail Sector**.
- The Union Cabinet has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between **India** and **Canada** to foster cross-border partnerships focused on **research excellence** and **industry-academic collaboration**.
- The Union Cabinet also approved the Arrangement between **India** and **Afghanistan** for cooperation in the field of **food safety and related areas**.
- The Cabinet has given its export facto approval to Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between **India** and **Iran** on establishment of an **expert group on trade remedy measures**. It aims to promote cooperation in areas of **mutual interest**.
- **India** and **South Korea** signed mutual recognition of certificate of competency of seafarers to provide **Indian seafarers employment** on over 500 Korean ships.
 - It was signed during four-day visit of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways Minister **Nitin Gadkari** to **South Korea**.
- **Singapore** and **China** have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote greater collaboration between companies from both countries in third-party markets along China's ambitious **Belt and Road routes**.
- **India** and **World Expo 2020 Dubai** have signed participant's contract for India's pavilion in prestigious **World Expo 2020** held once in 5 years.
 - The contract provides for setting up of India pavilion at Expo 2020 on extra-large plot (about one acre) in **Opportunity segment**.
- **India** and **Morocco** have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the fields of **Mining** and **Geology** for a period of 5 years to promote mineral exploration.
- The Union Cabinet has approved Memorandum of understanding (MoU) between **India, United Kingdom and Northern Ireland** on the return of **Illegal Migrants**.
- **Indian Army** has signed Memorandum of Undertaking (MoU) with **Axis Bank** on **Defence Salary Package**.
- During Prime Minister **Narendra Modi's** visit to the UK, the **NASSCOM** (National Association of Software & Services Companies) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UK cyber security community **TechUK** to launch a new **UK-India Tech Alliance**.
- **India** and **Finland** have reached an agreement on the **tax dispute** with **Nokia** under **Mutual Agreement Procedure (MAP)** system.
 - This involves payment of Rs.1,600 crore, a sum that was deposited with government by Nokia in March 2018.
- Hydro power major **Sutlej Jal Vidut Nigam (SJVN) Limited** has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Ministry of Power** for generating 9200 million units for the year 2018-19.
- The **National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL)** and **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)** have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on **technical knowledge sharing** for establishing nationwide **Time Stamping** and **Time Synchronization Network (TSTSN)** and traceability of Time signal to UTC NPL Time.

- The Union Government has entered into agreement with **World Bank** for flexible financing arrangement to accelerate research towards early development for **biopharmaceuticals** under **National Biopharma Mission**.
- The Union Cabinet has approved Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between **India** and **World Health Organization (WHO)** represented by its **Regional Office for South-East Asia** acting through its country office in India.
- The **Dalmia Bharat Group** has adopted **Delhi's Red Fort** for 5 years.
 - With this, Dalmia Bharat Group has become the 1st-ever corporate company to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under the government's "Adopt a Heritage" project.
- The **PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI)** and **Indian Yoga Association (IYA)** have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate interaction and cooperation between two organizations to promote wellness, spiritual and cultural tourism in **Krishna Circuit**.

Meet/Visit

- The 114th meeting of the **Permanent Indus Commission (PIC)** between **India** and **Pakistan** was recently held in **New Delhi**.
 - Representatives from both sides discussed **Indus Water Treaty (IWT)** dispute and resolution of outstanding issues.
 - India's Indus water commissioner **PK Saxena** and Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) officials were part of Indian delegation.
 - Pakistan's six-member delegation was led by **Syed Muhammad Mehar Ali Shah**.
- External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** was visited to **Azerbaijan** for a 3-day visit.
 - During this visit she was hold talks with top leadership of the country and attends a meeting of the **Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)**.
- Defence Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** was visited to **Russia** to attend the **7th Moscow Conference on International Security**.
- The 9th **India-Japan-US** trilateral meeting was successfully concluded at **New Delhi**. This meeting was represented by senior diplomats of the three countries.
- The **Prime Minister of Nepal K P Oli** along with his wife Radhika Shakya and a 54-member delegation visited to **India** for a 3 day visit.
 - PM Narendra Modi and **PM of Nepal K P Oli** jointly launched **Motihari To Amlekhganj India-Nepal Petroleum Product Pipeline** Project.
 - **India** and **Nepal** have agreed to boost cooperation in connectivity sector as they decided to develop **inland waterways** for **cargo movement** within **Protocol to Treaty of Transit** between the two countries.
 - **India** has agreed to build strategic **railway** link between **Raxaul** in **Bihar** and **Kathmandu** in **Nepal** to facilitate people-to-people (P2P) contact and bulk movement of goods.
- President **Ram Nath Kovind**, accompanied by First Lady Savita Kovind, embarked on a 3-nation State visit to the African countries of Equatorial **Guinea**, **Swaziland** and **Zambia** from April 7 to 12.
 - The visit, the first by a President of India to **Equatorial Guinea**, saw the signing of **three** MoUs in the fields of **AYUSH** and traditional medicine; medicinal plants; and an action plan for Information and Communication Technology.
 - During his visit to Swaziland, **2 MoUs** in fields of health and visa were signed between **India** and **Swaziland**.
- The 1st meeting of the newly constituted **NITI Forum for Northeast** was held in **Agartala, Tripura**.
 - The meeting was co-chaired by NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman **Rajeev Kumar** and Minister of State (Independent Charge), for DoNER, **Jitendra Singh**.

- Representatives of all eight member northeastern states Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura participated in it.
- The 16th **International Energy Forum (IEF) Ministerial Meeting** concluded in **New Delhi**.
 - This meeting was formally inaugurated by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**.
 - The meeting was attended by Petroleum Ministers from 42 countries and was co-hosted by **China and South Korea**.
 - Theme: “The Future of Global Energy Security: Transition, Technology, Trade and Investment”.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** was visited to Sweden and United Kingdom for a 5-day trip.
 - **India and Sweden** was organized the **India-Nordic summit** in **Stockholm** on 17 April, which is scheduled to be attended by the Prime Ministers of **Finland, Norway, Denmark and Iceland**.
 - After that Modi participated in an interactive event titled **Bharat Ki Baat Sabke Saath** at Westminster Central Hall.
 - From Sweden, Modi was travel to the **UK** on 17 April, where he was attend the **Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)**, besides holding bilateral talks with his British counterpart **Theresa May**.
 - During his UK visit, India Prime Minsiter **Narendra Modi** met **Queen Elizabeth II** at the Buckingham Palace (London).
 - Modi also met Prince **Charles** at an exhibition titled '**5000 Years of Science and Innovation in India**'.
 - Theme - 'Towards a common future'
- The 1st meeting of **National Council on India’s Nutrition Challenges** under **POSHAN Abhiyaan** was held in **New Delhi**.
- The 25th **Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2018 (CHOGM 2018)** was held in **London, United Kingdom**.
 - Theme of CHOGM 2018: "Towards a Common Future".
- In a bid to strengthen cooperation along economic lines, **India** participated at the **BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting** in **Washington DC**.
- The 1st **International SME (Small, Medium Enterprises)** convention started at **New Delhi**.
 - Aim: To provide platform to allow Entrepreneur to Entrepreneur (E2E) exchange of ideas, free and fair business discussions, mutual sizing of opportunities and ways to address them.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** was visited to **China** to attend an **Informal summit**, hosted by Chinese President **Xi Jinping** in **Wuhan city** during 27th and 28th April 2018.
 - This informal discussion is going to take place for the first time after 1954.
- External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** was visited to **Mongolia**.
 - During this visit, Swaraj was co-chair the 6th round of the **India-Mongolia Joint Consultative Committee** with **Mongolia’s Foreign Minister Damdin Tsogtbaatar**.
- The 23rd meeting of **Western Zonal Council** was recently held at **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**.
 - The meeting was attended by chief ministers of Maharashtra and Gujarat, ministers of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, administrator of UTs of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli and senior officers from Central and state governments.
 - This meeting was chaired by **Rajnath Singh** (Union home minister).
- **India and Nepal** have agreed to review **bilateral trade treaty** by July 2018.
 - The decision was taken at the meeting of India-Nepal Inter Government Committee (IGC) on Trade, Transit and Cooperation to Control Unauthorized Trade, held in **Kathmandu**.
- To commemorate 2562nd **Buddha Jayanti, International Buddhist Conference** was held in **Lumbini, Nepal**.

- Theme - 'Lumbini Nepal: The birthplace of Lord Buddha and the fountain of Buddhism and world peace'.

Bills

- Prohibiting the spread of fake news, the **Malaysia** passed the '**Anti-Fake News 2018**' bill. The new law sets out fines of up to 500,000 ringgit (over Rs.84 lakh) and a maximum six years in jail.
- The Union Cabinet has given its approval to the **Protection of Human Rights (Amendments) Bill, 2018** for better protection and promotion of human rights in the country.
 - To include “National Commission for Protection of Child Rights” as deemed Member of the Commission; To add a woman Member in the composition of the Commission; To incorporate a mechanism to look after the cases of human rights violation in the Union Territories.
- The **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** has notified the **Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules 2018**.
 - The amended Rules lay down that the phasing out of **Multilayered Plastic (MLP)** is now applicable to MLP, which are “non-recyclable, or non-energy recoverable, or with no alternate use.”
- The Centre approved the ordinance prescribing **Death penalty** to those convicted of **raping children aged below 12 years**.
- The **French National Assembly** has passed an **immigration reform bill** that shortens the asylum application deadline from **120 to 90 days**.
 - The bill also doubles the time for which illegal migrants can be detained, and introduces a one-year prison sentence for entering France illegally.
- The **Fugitive Economic Offenders Ordinance 2018** got the **President's assent**.
 - With this new law, the Enforcement Directorate is moving to confiscate assets worth over **Rs.15,000 crore** belonging to economic offenders who fled India.
 - The ED has decided to approach a special court for **Vijay Mallya, Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi** to be declared 'fugitives'.
- The **Women and Child Development Ministry** has announced that the government is preparing a draft Cabinet Note to amend the **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act** and make it **gender-neutral**.

Fund

- The Central Government and the **Government of Maharashtra** have signed **US \$420 million** loan agreement with **World Bank** for **Project for Climate Resilient Agriculture** to help small and marginal farmers in **Marathwada** and **Vidarbha** regions of **Maharashtra**.
- **India** donated **USD 1 million** to support **Swaziland's national disaster management** agency and expressed commitment to developmental partnership to create local capacities in the country and across Africa.
 - The commitment came as President **Ram Nath Kovind** addressed Swaziland's parliament, becoming the first visiting Head of the State to do so.
- The **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** have approved **\$140 million loan** for project aimed at improving **rural roads** (connectivity) in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- To improve road safety worldwide, the **United Nations** has launched **UN Road Safety Trust Fund**.
 - The **UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)** will act as the secretariat for the trust fund.
 - Aim: To accelerate progress in improving global road safety by bridging gaps in mobilization of resources for effective action at all levels.
- The **Indian** Government has signed Loan Agreement with **World Bank** for IBRD loan of **US \$48 million** for **Meghalaya Community – Led Landscapes Management Project (MCLLMP)**.

- **Aim:** To strengthen community-led landscapes management in selected landscapes in Meghalaya by 2023.
- The **British** government announced a new **India-UK trade partnership** wherein India will invest over Rs.9,000 crore in the country.
 - India's investment will help create or safeguard nearly 6,000 British jobs.
- The **total deposits** in accounts opened under **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana** has crossed **Rs.80,000 crore** mark as on 11th April 2018.
 - Further, the number of account holders has increased to 31.45 crore from 26.5 crore at the beginning of 2017 with **Uttar Pradesh** having the highest number of account holders.
- The **Union Government (Ministry of Finance)** has signed a Loan Agreement with the **World Bank** for **IBRD** credit of **US\$ 125** for **Innovate in India for Inclusiveness Project**.
- The **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** has launched a **\$12 million Grand Challenge** to encourage people to create a **vaccine** that could **protect** against all strains of **flu**.
 - The Challenge has been launched in collaboration with the family of Google Co-founder **Larry Page**.
- **Pakistan** Finance Minister **Miftah Ismail** allocated **\$9.6 billion** (nearly Rs.64,000 crore) for **Defence** in the 2018-19 fiscal.
 - This is an **18% increase** from the last fiscal.
- **Australia** has pledged more than **500 million Australian dollars** (\$379 million) to help preserve the **Great Barrier Reef**.

Economy

- The **Asian Development Outlook 2018** released by **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has projected **India's economic growth** to **7.3%** in 2018-19 fiscal and further to **7.6%** in 2019-20 fiscal.
 - The ADB's growth projection is in line with that of rating agency **Fitch**, but is lower than Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) forecast of **7.4%**.
- In its recently released report, the **World Bank** has announced that the **Indian economy** has recovered from the effects Demonetization and Goods and Services Tax (GST).
 - The World Bank predicts that **Indian economy's growth** will accelerate from **6.7%** in 2017 to **7.3%** in **2018** and **7.5%** in **2019**.
- In its latest **World Economic Outlook (WEO)**, the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has projected India is expected to grow at **7.4%** in 2018 and **7.8%** in 2019.
- The world's debt reached a record **\$164 trillion** in 2016, which is worth **225%** of the **world's Gross Domestic Product**, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
 - China alone contributed more than **40%** to the increase in global debt since 2007.
- Global credit rating agency **Fitch** has kept **India's sovereign rating** unchanged at **'BBB-'** with stable outlook.
 - According to Fitch, BBB- rating balances India's **medium term growth** outlook and favorable external balances with weak fiscal finances and some lagging structural factors, including governance standards and still-difficult but improving business environment.

Companies/Industry

- **American** multinational technology company **Apple** has announced its global facilities are now powered by **100%** clean energy, including data centers, offices and retail stores in 43 countries.
- **WhatsApp** has released a feature for its **Android beta users** which allows them to **'Request Money'** from other users on the platform.
- Social media giant **Facebook** has started **testing Digital Payments in India** in a beta version of its **Messenger app**.

- **Amazon** has launched an **Android web** browser app titled **Internet** which is designed to use **minimal storage and data**.
- **Microsoft** has announced that it is going to launch a new **operating system Azure Sphere**.
 - With this, for the first time Microsoft is launching a product based on former rival technology **Linux kernel**.
 - Microsoft says this product will help improving the **security of internet-connected devices**.
- 34 leading global technology firms including **Facebook, Microsoft, HP, ARM, Cisco, and Oracle** have signed **Cybersecurity Tech Accord** to work together on **cybersecurity issues**.
 - Under this Cybersecurity Tech Accord, signatory companies have agreed to collaborate on stronger defence systems, no offensive cyber attacks, and protect against tampering of their products, capacity building and collective action.
- **Facebook** has started rolling out a feature in **India** that allows **Android users** to **recharge** their prepaid mobile numbers.
- A London-based startup, **Pigzbe**, has launched a hardware **wallet for children** to **store** its crypto currency called '**Wollo**', to teach them about money.
- Indian IT firm **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** has joined the **world's 100 most valued companies** and now ranks **97th**, according to Bloomberg data.
 - **TCS** has become the **second** Indian company to reach the **\$100-billion** market **capitalization milestone**.
 - The 1st Indian company to cross the \$100 billion milestone was **Reliance Industries** in 2007.
- **Paytm** has launched a payment mode titled **Paytm Tap Card** in pilot mode in **Chennai**.
 - This card uses **Near Field Communication (NFC) technology**.
 - With this a user can scan the QR code on the card to transfer money from Paytm wallet without the need of **internet connection**.

Stock Market

- The **National Stock Exchange's (NSE)** arm **India Index Services & Products Ltd (IISL)** has launched **Nifty equity** savings index which will serve as benchmark for equity saving funds offered by various **mutual funds**.

Exports/Imports

- The **Indian government** imposed a **10% import duty** on **three key smart phone** components with a view to boost domestic manufacturing.

Taxation/Trade

- Businesses and transporters shipping goods worth more than **Rs.50,000** from **one state to another** will have to carry **GST e-way bill** starting **1st April 2018**.
- **Sweden** introduced a **new Aviation Tax** requiring all passenger flights in the country to have an added charge ranging from 60 kronor (Rs.470) to 400 kronor (Rs.3,100), depending on the destination.
- **Britain's sugar tax** on **soft drinks** came into effect on April 7.
 - The tax was levied on drinks with sugar content exceeding 5 grams per 100 ml.
- **China** has filed a **trade complaint** against the **United States** with the **World Trade Organization (WTO)** over tariffs imposed on imports of **steel and aluminium** products.
 - **China** claimed the **25% duty** on steel imports and **10% duty** on imports of aluminium products violate WTO's fundamental principles.

Agriculture/Production

- The government has increased **Minimum Support Price (MSP)** of raw **jute** by **Rs.200 to Rs.3,700 per quintal** for 2018-19 seasons.
 - The decision would benefit jute farmers mainly in **West Bengal, Assam and Bihar** which account for 95% of the country's jute production.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved restructured **National Bamboo Mission (NBM)**, a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** under **National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)** during remaining period of 14th Finance Commission (2018-20) with an outlay of **Rs. 1290 crore**.

Space

- **China's "out-of-control" Tiangong-1** space laboratory re-entered the Earth's atmosphere, 'mostly' burning up as it headed towards the **central** region of the **South Pacific**.
- The **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**'s supersonic parachute, which will help missions to land on **Mars**, was successfully launched.
 - NASA's Mars rover is scheduled to launch in two years.
- US Company **Orion Span** is going to open '**Aurora Station**', the world's first luxury hotel in space in **2021**.
- The **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** is set to launch the **Parker Solar Probe**, also called as the humanity's first mission to the **Sun**, on July 31.
- The **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** successfully launched the **IRNSS-1I navigation satellite**.
 - IRNSS-1I will replace the **IRNSS-1A** which was rendered ineffective after its atomic clocks failed.
- **China** is going to send **seeds of Potato, a Flowering Plant, and Silkworm Eggs** with its lunar probe later this year to conduct the first biological experiment on the **Moon**.
- Elon Musk-led **SpaceX** is going to launch **NASA's** space telescope titled **TESS** (Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite) to search for other planets orbiting distant stars.
 - NASA's TESS will monitor 200,000 of the nearest stars using the same method that enabled **Kepler's spacecraft** to spot 2,600 confirmed exoplanets.
 - It was scheduled to launch on **April 16** aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.
- The **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** and its **French** counterpart **Centre National D'Etudes Spatiales (CNES)** are going to collaborate on missions to **Mars and Venus**.
- **India's** second **Moon** mission, **Chandrayaan-2** has been postponed from April 2018 to **October-November 2018**.
- The **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** launched **Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)**, a new planet-hunting spacecraft onboard of **SpaceX's Falcon 9** rocket from Cape Canaveral, **Florida, US**.
 - TESS mission is designed to carry out first space borne all sky transiting exoplanet survey.

Science and Technology

- The **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Delhi** has installed **Massive Multiple-Input, Multiple-Output (MIMO)** lab on campus for standardization, R&D and manufacturing of **5G** equipment.
 - It will be the first of its kind 5G lab in the country and has been set-up at **Bharti School of Telecommunication Technology and Management**.
- Astronomers using the **Gemini North** telescope in **Hawaii** have confirmed the presence of **hydrogen sulphide gas** over planet **Uranus** that is responsible for giving rotten eggs their pungent smell.

- The **Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)** is tying up with **United States** and **Finland** to develop new pollution-forecast system that will help anticipate **Particulate Matter (PM)** levels at least two days in advance and at greater resolution.
 - Particulate matter is the sum of all solid and liquid particles suspended in air many of which are hazardous.
- The **Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC)** has developed a lightweight, **cheaper bulletproof jacket** of next-generation, titled **Bhabha Kavach**.

Health/Diseases/Drugs

- To help users **quit smoking**, all **tobacco products** and **cigarette packs** will have the national **toll-free number 1800-11-2356** printed on them starting **September 1**.
- **Kerala** has become the 1st state in the country to issue **guidelines** for declaring a patient as **brain dead**.
- To address rising incidence of **Vitamin D deficiencies (VDD)**, particularly amongst the young people, the **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** launched a new project titled '**Project Dhoop**'.

Energy/Gas/Oil

- **Delhi** has become the 1st Indian city to upgrade to "**UltraClean**" **Euro-VI** grade **Petrol and Diesel** from Euro-IV grade fuels.
 - The newer fuel, which went on retail sale, is expected to combat air pollution by reducing sulphur emissions by around 80%.
- 70 years after Independence, the Indian Government has announced that **all villages** in the country have now access to **electricity**.
 - **Leisang** village in **Senapati district of Manipur** was the last village brought on the national power grid on 28th April 2018.

Environment

- The **Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** has released draft of **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)** proposing multiple strategies to reduce **air pollution**.
 - Aim: To tackle increasing air pollution problem across country in comprehensive manner.
- In a bid to tackle **marine pollution**, the **UK** is going to **ban** the **sale** of **plastic** straws, drink stirrers and plastic-stemmed cotton buds.

Education

- The **University of Hyderabad** has announced that its professor of linguistics has discovered **2 languages** which were lying hidden till now.
 - They are, **Walmiki Language**: This language is spoken in district of Koraput of Odisha and on bordering districts of Andhra Pradesh.
 - **Malhar Language**: This language is spoken in a remote and isolated hamlet about 165 km away from Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- To attract **foreign students** to India, the Union government launched the '**Study in India**' programme on April 19.
 - Objectives: To improve the global ranking of Indian educational institutes. To encourage more foreign students to choose India as destination for higher education.
 - To double India's market share of global education exports from less than 1% to 2%.

Transport/Cars/Scooters

- The trial run of the **1st container train** to run between **India** and **Bangladesh** was flagged off.

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** flagged off India's first all **electric high speed locomotives** in **Bihar**.
 - The first big **Make-in-India** project completed by **France's Alstom**, the train has the country's most powerful engine with 12,000 horsepower and a maximum speed of 120 km per hour.
- The **Sabarmati station** of India's 1st bullet train, which will connect **Ahmedabad** and **Mumbai**, will be themed around **Mahatma Gandhi's Dandi March**.
- The **Indian Railways** is going to launch a dedicated mobile application for **lodging grievances** titled '**MADAD**' (Mobile Application for Desired Assistance During travel).
- The Centre is working on a system to **deduct the road toll amount** directly from **bank accounts** so that drivers don't have to stop at toll plazas, Union Minister **Nitin Gadkari** has announced.
 - This system already exists in **South Korea**.
- The Ultra Long Range version of the Airbus' **A350 XWB**, which has a range of nearly 18,000 km and can fly for 20 hours nonstop, has successfully completed its first flight.
 - The aircraft will be used to operate the 15,322-km flight between **Singapore** and **New York**, which will be the world's longest commercial flight, later this year.
- A **trial service** of Transnational **Buses** plying between **Bangladesh, Bhutan, India** and **Nepal** was launched.

Films and Film Festival

- The **Saudi Film Council** has announced that it will participate in the 71st annual **Cannes Film Festival** from May 8 to 19.
- The winners of **65th National Awards** were announced.
 - 19-year-old **Riddhi Sen** was named the **Best Actor** for the **Bengali film 'Nagarkirtan'**.
 - Actress **Sridevi** was posthumously named the **Best Actress** for the film '**Mom**'.
 - Late actor **Vinod Khanna** was conferred with the **Dadasaheb Phalke Award**.
 - Best Director: **Jayaraj** for **Bhayanakam** (Malayalam)
- Veteran actor **Dharmendra** was conferred with the prestigious **Raj Kapoor Lifetime Achievement Award**.
 - Filmmaker **Rajkumar Hirani** was honored with the **Raj Kapoor Special Contribution award**.
 - Veteran Marathi actor **Vijay Chavhan** was honored with the **V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement award**.
 - Actor-director **Mrinal Kulkarni** was honored with **V Shantaram Special Contribution award**.
- Bollywood Actor **Anupam Kher** has received a nomination in the **Best Supporting Actor** category at the 2018 **BAFTA TV Awards**.
 - He has been nominated for his performance in the show '**The Boy with the Topknot**'.
- **Shahid Kapoor** was honored with the **Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award** for his performance in Sanjay Leela Bhansali directorial '**Padmaavat**'.
 - Best actor (male): **Shahid Kapoor**
 - Best actor people's choice award: **Ranveer Singh**
 - Entertainer of the year: **Kartik Aryan**
 - Best actress (critics): **Aditi Rao Hydari**
 - Lifetime achievement award: **Simi Garewal**
 - Pride of Indian cinema: **Sanjay Dutt**
 - Best director: **Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari**
- **Anushka Sharma** will receive the **Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award** for her contribution to films as a **producer**.

Festival

- **10th edition of DefExpo18** was held in **Chennai** from 11- 14 April.
 - Theme - "India: The Emerging Manufacturing Hub".

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- Finance Minister **Arun Jaitley**, who was elected to the **Rajya Sabha** for his fourth consecutive term as a BJP candidate from **Uttar Pradesh**, has been reappointed as the **Leader of the House**.
- Bharti Enterprises Vice-Chairman **Rakesh Bharti Mittal** assumed office of the **President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** for 2018-19.
 - He replaced **Shobana Kamineni**, Executive Vice Chairperson, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd.
 - **Uday Kotak**, Founder and CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank took over as **President-Designate of CII**.
 - **Vikram Kirloskar** became the new **Vice-President of CII**.
- Former UN Secretary General **Ban Ki-moon** was elected as **Chairman of Boao Forum** (also known as known as "Asian Davos") for Asia replacing **Japan's Yasuo Fukuda**.
 - Former governor of People's Bank of China **Zhou Xiaochuan** was appointed **vice-chairman**.
- Labor Secretary **M Sathiyavathy** took charge as **Member of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)**.
- IT industry body **Nasscom** has appointed Wipro's Chief Strategy Officer and board member **Rishad Premji** as its **Chairman** for 2018-19.
- The Union Government has appointed AIIMS professor **Balram Bhargava** as Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Secretary of the **Department of Health Research**.
- Senior IPS officer **Rajesh Ranjan** has been appointed as the **Director General of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)**.
- The government has appointed **Bhanu Pratap Sharma** as the new **Chairman of Banks Board Bureau (BBB)**. He will replace **Vinod Rai**, whose term ended on March 31.
- German automaker **Volkswagen** has appointed VW brand head **Herbert Diess** as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He will replace **Matthias Mueller**.
- India's largest **FMCG** Company **Hindustan Unilever** has appointed CEO and MD **Sanjiv Mehta** as its new **Chairman**.
 - He will replace **Harish Manwani**, who will retire at the end of June after serving as the Non-Executive Chairman for 13 years.
- Former Himachal Pradesh Governor **Vishnu Sadashiv Kokje** was elected as the **International President** of the **Vishva Hindu Parishad**.
- Cryptocurrency exchange **Coinbase** announced that it has acquired **Earn.com**, which lets users send and receive **digital currency** for replying to **e-mails** and completing tasks.
 - As part of the \$100 million deal, Earn's CEO **Balaji Srinivasan** will become Coinbase's first Chief Technology Officer (CTO).
- **Cuba's** National Assembly has appointed First Vice President **Miguel Mario Díaz-Canel Bermúdez** as the **country's President**.
 - Bermudez is going to replace **Raúl Castro** who recently retired.
- US President Donald Trump's nominee **James Bridenstine** was confirmed as 13th **Administrator of NASA**.
 - He is going to replace **Robert M. Lightfoot, Jr.**
- Online discussions platform **Reddit** has appointed **Jen Wong**, a former executive at **Time** as its **Chief Operating officer (COO)**.

- **Britain's Prince Charles** was appointed as the successor to his mother Queen Elizabeth II as the head of the **Commonwealth** after all 53 nations agreed on his name.
- **Axis Bank** has appointed executive search firm **Egon Zehnder** to help it find a successor to the current MD and CEO **Shikha Sharma**.
- The **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** has appointed its 1st woman firefighter, **Taniya Sanyal**.
- **Tata Sons** appointed former Indian Foreign Secretary **S Jaishankar** as the group's **Global Corporate Affairs President**.
- **Sitaram Yechury** was unanimously elected as the **General Secretary** of CPI(M) for his second term.
 - **Yechury** had taken over as **General Secretary** from **Prakash Karat** in the 21st Party Congress in 2015.
- The Indian government has cleared the appointment of senior advocate **Indu Malhotra** as **Supreme Court Judge**.
 - With this, Mrs. Malhotra is set to become the first woman lawyer to be directly appointed as a Supreme Court judge.
 - **Malhotra** is the second woman to be appointed as the top court's senior advocate.
- **Reliance** group Chairman Anil Ambani's eldest son **Anmol Ambani** has been appointed to the boards of **Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management** and **Reliance Home Finance**.
- Former India off-spinner **Aashish Kapoor** has been appointed **Chairman** of the **All-India Junior Selection Committee**.
 - Kapoor, who replaced **Venkatesh Prasad** as the head of the committee, will lead the three-member panel.
 - The other two members of the selection panel are **Gyanendra Pandey** and **Rakesh Parikh**.
- The **Congress** appointed veteran party leader **Kamal Nath** as its **Madhya Pradesh** unit chief, while Lok Sabha chief whip **Jyotiraditya Scindia** will head the campaign committee for Assembly elections.
- United Nations Secretary-General **António Guterres** announced the appointment of **Christine Schraner Burgener** of Switzerland as his new **Special Envoy on Myanmar**.
 - Until this appointment, Ms. Burgener was the Ambassador of Switzerland to Germany since 2015.
- World's largest oil producer, **Saudi Aramco**, has appointed **Lynn Laverty Elsenhans** as its **Director**.
 - With this Elsenhans will become the 1st -ever female director of the organization.
- **Anu Kumari**, the second rank holder in the UPSC Civil Services Examination 2017, has been appointed as the new brand ambassador of the government's **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign** in **Haryana's Sonapat** district.
- **Kavinder Gupta** took oath as the **Deputy Chief Minister** of **Jammu and Kashmir** after BJP's Nirmal Singh resigned from the post.

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- **Axis Bank** CEO and MD **Shikha Sharma** has sought approval from the bank's board to **step down** at the end of 2018.
- **Martin Sorrell**, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the world's largest advertising group WPP, resigned after 33 years.
- The **Prime Minister** of **Armenia**, **Serzh Sargsyan** resigned from the post, just 7 seven days after he was sworn-in.

- **Jammu and Kashmir Deputy CM** and BJP leader **Nirmal Singh** has resigned from his post, a day ahead of the cabinet reshuffle.

Arrests/Jailed

- **Brazil's** former President **Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva** surrendered to police.
 - He was sentenced to 12 years in prison on corruption charges.
- The **CBI** has registered a case against former **UCO Bank** CMD **Arun Kaul** over a Rs.621-crore fraud.

Deaths

- **South Africa's** anti-apartheid activist **Winnie MadikizelaMandela** (81) passed away. Winnie was the former wife of South Africa's President Nelson Mandela.
- Czech American film director **Miloš Forman** (86), known for directing the Oscar-winning film 'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest' passed away.
 - Forman also won the Best Director Oscar for his film 'Amadeus' in 1985.
- Veteran journalist and editor **S Nihal Singh** (88), who won the International Editor of the Year Award for his role in opposing the Emergency by former PM Indira Gandhi, passed away.
- Former US First **Lady Barbara Bush** (92) passed away.
- Chile's **Celino Villanueva Jaramillo** (121 years), believed to be the world's oldest person, died.
- Turkey-born scientist **Nerses Krikorian** (97), who worked at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, which developed the atomic bomb, has passed away.
- **Swedish DJ Avicii** (28) one of the world's biggest dance music stars has passed away.
- **Nabi Tajima** (117), the world's oldest person and the last known to be born in the 19th century, has passed away.
- **Actor Verne Troyer** (49), who starred in the Austin Powers movies as 'Mini-Me' and a Harry Potter movie as Griphook, died.

Awards/Honours

- The **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport** in **Ahmedabad** has received the award for the '**Most Improved Airport**' in the Asia Pacific region, in Airport Service Quality awards 2017 organized by the **Airport Council International (ACI)**.
- 7 years after leading **India** to victory in the World Cup final, the former India captain **MS Dhoni** received **Padma Bhushan**, India's third highest civilian honour, at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
 - Dhoni is the **11th cricketer** to receive the award.
- The **Mangaluru International Airport** (Karnataka) was named the **cleanest airport** in India at Airports Authority of India's 23rd annual day celebrations in **New Delhi**.
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** was conferred with the **Highest Civilian Honor** given to a non-citizen by **Equatorial Guinea**.
- **Japan's Masazo Nonaka** (112 Years) has been recognized as the **world's oldest living man** by the Guinness World Records.
- **Team India** captain **Virat Kohli** has been named **Wisden's leading male cricketer** for the 2nd year in a row.
 - With this, Kohli has become the 3rd cricketer after **Virender Sehwag** and **Kumar Sangakkara** to be honored with the award multiple times.
 - **Mithali Raj** has been honored as **Wisden's leading female cricketer**.

- Founder of the Microsoft Corporation **Bill Gates** has emerged as the **world's most admired man** in UK-based research firm **YouGov's** survey.
 - Hollywood Actress **Angelina Jolie** has been named the **World's most admired woman**.
 - Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** was named **world's eighth most admired man** according to this survey.
- The **New York Times** and **The New Yorker** magazine jointly won **Pulitzer Prize** for their revelations of **sexual harassment and abuse in Hollywood**.
 - The **New York Times** also won **Pulitzers** in the **national reporting** and **editorial cartooning category**.
 - Other Pulitzer winners included **Reuters**, which won the 2018 prize in international reporting and feature **photography categories**.
 - **Kendrick Lamar** became the 1st rapper to win a **Pulitzer Prize** for **music** as he won the prestigious prize for his album '**DAMN**'.
- Indian film director, producer **Karan Johar** has become the 1st filmmaker from India to get his **wax statue** at **Madame Tussauds Museum**.
- The **German city of Trier**, the hometown of **Karl Marx**, is selling souvenirs of '**0-euro**' notes bearing Marx's face to celebrate his 200th birth anniversary (5th May 2018).
- **Reliance Industries** Chairman **Mukesh Ambani** was ranked **24** in **Fortune's 2018 list of The World's 50 Greatest Leaders**.
 - Other Indians included were human rights lawyer **Indira Jaising** (rank 20) and Pritzker Prize-winning architect **Balkrishna Doshi** (rank 43).
- US President **Donald Trump** and North Korean leader **Kim Jong-un** have featured on **TIME magazine's** annual list of **100 Most Influential People**.
 - Other world leaders on the list include **Chinese President Xi Jinping** and **Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman**.
 - **Whistleblower Christopher Wylie**, who exposed the Facebook data scandal, is also featured in the list.
- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** professor **Parag Pathak** has been awarded the **John Bates Clark Medal** for 2018, granted annually to the best economist under the age of 40.
 - He was awarded for his work on market design and education policy.
- **American NFL star Colin Kaepernick**, who kneeled during the US national anthem as a protest against racial inequality, was honored by **Amnesty International** with their **Ambassador of Conscience Award** for 2018.
- The Indian government has released a **Commemorative Stamp** to honor Indian women's cricket team fast bowler **Jhulan Goswami** for becoming the first woman cricketer to take 200 wickets in ODIs.
- Liverpool forward **Mohamed Salah** has become the 1st **Egyptian player** to be named **Professional Footballers' Association player of the year**.
- Jailed **Egyptian** photojournalist **Mahmoud Abu Zeid**, popularly known as Shawkan, has won the **UNESCO World Press Freedom Prize 2018**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has released a commemorative **postage stamp** on former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Late **Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna**.
- **Gujarati** language poet, playwright, translator and academic, **Sitanshu Yashaschandra** was selected for 27th **Saraswati Samman 2017** for his poetry collection titled "**Vakhar**" published in 2009.
 - The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) was awarded **National Intellectual Property (IP) Award 2018** in category "**Top R&D Institution/Organization for Patents and Commercialization**".

Sports/Game

- **India U-16** was crowned **champions** of the **Jockey Cup International Youth Invitational Football Tournament** by defeating hosts **Hong Kong** in the finals.
- **Britain's Anthony Joshua** beat **New Zealand's Joseph Parker** to add the **WBO heavyweight world championship** title to his tally of WBA, IBO and IBF world heavyweight championship titles which he currently holds.
- **Prince Charles** inaugurated the **2018 Commonwealth Games** at **Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia**.
 - Olympic silver medalist **PV Sindhu** led the over 200- member strong **Indian contingent** at the Parade of Nations during the opening ceremony.
 - **India** had finished **fifth** at **2014 Commonwealth Games** with 15 gold medals.
- Indian weightlifter **P Gururaja** bagged the country's **1st medal** at the **2018 Commonwealth Games** after lifting a total of 249 kg (111 kg snatch, 138 kg clean and jerk) to win **Silver** in men's 56 kg.
- **Indian** tennis player **Leander Paes** set the record for the **most number** of **doubles wins** in **Davis Cup** (also known as the 'World Cup of Tennis).
- **Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel** won his second **Grand Prix** in as many races, at the Bahrain Grand Prix, while Mercedes' **Valtteri Bottas** finished second.
- **India's** badminton ace **Kidambi Srikanth** is all set to become **World No.1** since **Prakash Padukone** in the 1980s, replacing **Denmark's Viktor Axelsen**.
 - Srikanth will be the first Indian male player to achieve this feat and will join **Saina Nehwal**, who became the first Indian girl to become world No. 1 in March 2015.
- **India** is going to host the **Asia Cup 2018** in the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** after a unanimous decision was taken by the **Asian Cricket Council** to move the tournament from India due to political reasons between India and Pakistan.
- **India** will join **Russia** among the nations that will **lose weightlifting spots** at the **Tokyo 2020 Olympics** due to the number of **doping violations** registered against the nation's athletes.
- Indian women's cricket team captain **Mithali Raj** has become the 1st-ever woman to **smash 50 fifties** in **ODI cricket**, achieving the feat against **England**.
- **Australian** batsman **Aaron Finch** has become the 1st-ever player to **represent seven teams** in the IPL.
- The 21st Commonwealth Games 2018 concluded on April 15.
 - Host country **Australia topped** the medal tally with 198 medals including 80 Gold, 59 Silver and 59 bronze medals.
 - **England** stood at the **2nd spot** with 136 medals (45 Gold, 45 Silver and 46 Bronze).
 - With an overall tally of 66 Medals including 26 Gold, 20 Silver and 20 Bronze Medals **India** stood at the **3rd place**.
 - India was the best nation in 5 disciplines (Weightlifting, Shooting, Wrestling, Badminton and Table Tennis), and the second best nation in boxing.
- Boxer **MC Mary Kom**, who claimed her maiden Commonwealth gold, is set to be **India's flag-bearer** at the 2018 Commonwealth Games' **closing ceremony**.
- Red Bull Formula 1 driver **Daniel Ricciardo** has won the **Chinese Grand Prix**.
 - Mercedes' **Valtteri Bottas** secured the **second** place with compatriot Ferrari driver **Kimi Raikkonen** ended the race at **third** place.
- The **Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI)** has recommended **Manika Batra** for the prestigious **Arjuna Award**.
 - Manika is India's only quadruple medallist at the Commonwealth Games 2018.

- **Barcelona** thrashed **Sevilla** to lift their fourth straight and 30th overall **Copa del Rey** title, an annual football cup competition for **Spanish** football teams.
- **Spain's Rafael Nadal** has won 11th **Monte Carlo Masters** title by defeating **Japan's Kei Nishikori**.
 - With this, the world number one Nadal has become 1st male tennis player in the Open Era to win the same title **11 times** in his career.
- Cricketer **Gautam Gambhir** has stepped down as the **captain of Delhi Daredevils** after losing five out of six matches in IPL 2018 so far.
 - Batsman **Shreyas Iyer** will replace Gambhir as the skipper of Delhi Daredevils.
- Former Indian Navy Commando, **Praveen Teotia**, completed the 2018 **Triathlon Championships** in **South Africa** and became India's first disabled man to win the '**Ironman**' title.
 - Teotia had been shot four times during the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, sustaining injuries to his lungs and ear.
- World record holder **Shahzar Rizvi** claimed India's first medal (i10 meter air pistol event) at the ongoing **ISSF World Cup** organized by the **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF)** at **Changwon, South Korea**.
- The **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** has recommended Indian cricket captain **Virat Kohli's** name for the second time for India's highest sporting honor, the **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna**.
 - It also recommended former India captain and U-19 World Cup-winning coach **Rahul Dravid** for the **Dronacharya Award**.
 - Padma Bhushan and Arjuna awardee **Sunil Gavaskar** has been nominated for **Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement** in Sports.
 - Indian men's cricket team opener **Shikhar Dhawan** and Indian women's team opener **Smriti Mandhana** were recommended for the **Arjuna Award**.
- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** announced that it will hold a **World T20** instead of the **Champions Trophy in India in 2021**.
- As a part of **Saudi General Sports Authority's** new 10-year partnership with **World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE)**, **Saudi Arabia** hosted its 1st ever **WWE event** in which **women and children** were allowed as spectators.
 - The event, called the '**Greatest Royal Rumble**', featured a John Cena-Triple H fight and a 50-man fight including the likes of Randy Orton and The Great Khali.
- **Neeraj Chopra**, the first-ever Indian to win **javelin throw gold** at the CWG, has been recommended for **Khel Ratna Award**, India's highest sporting honor, by the Athletics Federation of India.
- Tennis Player **Siddhant Banthia** won the **Indian leg of the junior French Open** wild card tournament in **New Delhi**.
- For the 1st time, the **Afghanistan cricket board** is going to conduct **T20 league** during 5th to 24th October 2018 in **Sharjah**.
 - Reportedly, it already requested BCCI to allow **Indian players** to feature in this T20 league.
- The Indian contingent finished the **Belgrade International Boxing Tournament** with a total of **13 medals** (3 Gold medals, 5 Silver medals, and 5 Bronze medals).
 - Gold medal Winners: **Sumit Sangwan** (91 kg category), **Himanshu Sharma** (49 kg category), **Nikhat Zareen** (51 kg category).
- World number one and 16-time Grand Slam champion **Rafael Nadal** has won his 44th consecutive set on clay and registered his **400th win** on the surface.
 - Nadal achieved the feat by defeating world number 10 **David Goffin** in the **Barcelona Open semi-final**.

- The **Commonwealth Games Federation** confirmed that **Shooting** will not be a part of the **CWG 2022**.
 - **India** won **16 medals** in **Shooting** at the Commonwealth Games 2018.
- World number one **Rafael Nadal** has won **Barcelona Open** by defeating **Stefanos Tsitsipas**.
 - Nadal is the only male tennis player in the Open Era to win two titles **11 times** each in his career.
- **Saina Nehwal**, who had bagged women's singles gold medal at CWG 2018, won **bronze** at the **Badminton Asia Championships**.
 - Meanwhile, India's **HS Prannoy** bagged his maiden **Asia Championships men's singles bronze** medal.
- **Prajnesh Gunneswaran** has clinched his first ever singles tennis title on the **ATP Challenger circuit**.
 - In the final of the **Kunming Open** held at **Anning, China**, he defeated **Egypt's Mohammed Safwat**.
- The list of India's medal winners in Commonwealth Games at the Gold Coast games.
 - **Gold (26):**
 - **Saina Nehwal** clinched women's singles gold in **badminton**.
 - **Boxer Vikas Krishan** wins gold in 75kg category at Commonwealth Games.
 - **Manika Batra** wins gold in **table tennis women's singles**, becoming the first Indian woman to do so.
 - **Vinesh Phogat** wins gold in women's **wrestling** freestyle 50 kg Nordic event.
 - **Neeraj Chopra** became the first Indian **javelin** thrower to claim a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games.
 - In the 52kg boxing event **Gaurav Solanki** won gold.
 - In wrestling, **Sumit Malik** claimed the gold medal in the men's freestyle 125 kg.
 - **Sanjeev Rajput** won gold in 50m Rifle 3 Position shooting event.
 - **M.C. Mary Kom** won 45-48 kg category boxing event, claiming gold in her debut Commonwealth Games.
 - **Bajrang Punia** won the gold medal in freestyle 65kg wrestling.
 - **Tejaswini Sawant** won the 50m rifle position event
 - 15-year-old **Anish Bhanwala** bagged gold in men's 25m rapid fire pistol.
 - In men's freestyle 74kg wrestling, double Olympic-medallist **Sushil Kumar** won gold.
 - **Rahul Aware** added another gold medal to India's tally, winning in the Men's Freestyle 57kg wrestling event.
 - In the double trap women shooting, India's **Shreyasi Singh** won gold.
 - Shooter **Heena Sidhu** won gold in 25m pistol event to give India its 11th gold medal in the Games.
 - The Indian mixed team badminton claimed gold for the first time in the Games' history.
 - In the 10m men's air pistol event, India's **Jitu Rai** won gold. This is his second Commonwealth gold.
 - In the women's table tennis event, the Indian team won its first ever Commonwealth gold medal.
 - In 10m women's air pistol, **Manu Bhaker** won gold and added sixth gold for India at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.
 - Weightlifter **Punam Yadav** became the third woman to win gold for India, coming out on top in the women's 69 kg category at the CWG 2018.
 - Weightlifter **Venkat Rahul Ragala** became the fourth Indian to claim a gold medal in the men's 85 kg category.
 - Weightlifter **Satish Kumar Sivalingam** won India's third gold in the men's 77kg category.
 - Weightlifter **Sanjita Chanu** landed India its second gold medal, winning the top spot in the women's 53kg category.

- Weightlifter **Mirabai Chanu** was the first gold medal winner for India, on the opening day, in the women's 48 kg category.
- Indian men's table tennis team wins gold beating Nigeria 3-0.
- **Silver (20):**
 - **P.V. Sindhu** picked up the women's singles silver medal in badminton playing against Saina Nehwal.
 - **Kidambi Srikanth** settled for badminton silver.
 - **Dipika Pallikal Karthik** and **Joshna Chinappa** settle for silver in women's doubles squash.
 - In mixed doubles squash, **Dipika Pallikal** and **Saurav Ghosal** claim silver.
 - Boxer **Manish Kaushik** won silver in the Men's 60 kg category.
 - India's **Amit Panghal** won silver after losing a very close bout in the Boxing Men's 46-49kg Final.
 - **Manika Batra** and **Mouma Das** fought hard before going down against defending champions Feng Tianwei and Yu Mengyu to settle for a silver medal in the women's doubles, a first ever for India in the Commonwealth Games.
 - **Anjum Moudgil** bagged silver in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions event.
 - Wrestler **Pooja Dhanda** made a late push in the women's 57kg final bout to win silver.
 - Wrestler **Mausam Khatri** failed to make use of his wealth of experience as he settled for a silver medal in men's freestyle 97 kg event.
 - **Seema Punia** came up with a best effort of 60.41m in the women's discus throw, which she did in her opening attempt to win her fourth successive CWG medal
 - **Mehuli Ghosh** won silver in the 10m women's air rifle event.
 - In the 105 category weightlifting for men, **Pradeep Singh** won the silver.
 - In 10m women's air pistol, **Heena Sidhu** won the silver and added second silver for India at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.
 - Weightlifter **P.Gururaja** opened India's medal account on the first competition day, claiming a silver in the men's 56kg category.
 - **Tejaswini Sawant** won a silver medal in 50m prone finals in shooting.
 - Wrestler **Babita Kumari** won silver in 53kg event.
- **Bronze (20):**
 - **Manika Batra** and **G. Sathyan** claimed mixed doubles bronze in table tennis.
 - Sharath Kamal claimed bronze in table tennis Men's Singles.
 - **Harmeet Desai** and **Sanil Shankar Shetty** bagged bronze in the men's doubles Table Tennis competition.
 - **Ashwini Ponnappa** and **Sikki Reddy** win bronze at women's doubles badminton.
 - In wrestling, **Somveer** claims bronze in Men's Freestyle 86 kg.
 - In wrestling, **Sakshi Malik** claimed bronze in the Women's Freestyle 62 kg.
 - **Naman Tanwar** won bronze in the boxing Men's 91 kg
 - **Manoj Kumar** won bronze in the boxing Men's 69 kg.
 - **Hussamuddin Mohammed** won bronze in the boxing Men's 56 kg.
 - **Divya Kakran** won bronze medal in the women's freestyle 68 kg by outplaying Bangladesh's Sherin Sultana 4-0.
 - In the women's discus throw, **Navjeet Dhillon** grabbed the bronze with her final throw of 57.43m
 - In women's freestyle 76kg wrestling event, **Kiran** bagged a bronze medal.
 - Delhi-born **Ankur Mittal** claimed the bronze in men's double trap shooting event.
 - **Om Mitharval** won bronze in the 50m men's pistol event and in the 10m men's air pistol event.
 - India's **Apurvi Chandela** won bronze in the 10m women's air rifle event.
 - One more medal for weightlifting, **Vikas Thakur** added a shade of bronze to Indian weightlifters' golden run at the Commonwealth Games, claiming the third position in the 94kg category by equalling his personal best.
 - **Ravi Kumar** settles for bronze in men's 10m air rifle event at 21st Commonwealth Games.

- Teenager **Deepak Lather** from Haryana became the youngest Indian weightlifter to claim a Commonwealth Games medal, clinching a bronze in the men's 69kg category.
- **Sachin Chaudhary** did the country proud by bagging a bronze medal in the men's heavyweight category in para powerlifting of the XXI Commonwealth Games.

Report

- **India** has replaced **Vietnam** to become **2nd largest producer of mobile phones** in 2017.
 - Top 3: China, India, Vietnam.
- **India** overtook **Germany** to become **4th largest automobile market**, growing its Automobile by 9.5%.
 - Top 4: China, USA, Japan.
- According to a report released by global startup ecosystem map **Startupblink**, **India** ranked **37th** in the **Global startup ecosystem** in 2017.
 - **United States** topped the list followed by the **United Kingdom**.
- **Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore** has been named the **best Indian university** under the **National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)**, released by **Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar**.
 - **Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)** stood at the **2nd position**, followed by **Banaras Hindu University (BHU)** and **Anna University**.
- According to a recent report released by the **Steel Users Federation of India (SUFI)**, **India** has overtaken **Japan** to become **world's second largest producer of crude steel** in February 2018.
 - **China** is the **largest producer** of crude steel in the world, accounting for more than 50% of the production.
- According to recently published **Internet Security Threat Report**, **India** emerged as **3rd most vulnerable country** in terms of risk of cyber threats, such as malware, spam and ransomware in 2017.
 - The **United States** remains **most vulnerable** to such attacks, followed by **China**.
- According to a report released by cybersecurity firm **Symantec**, **India** is the **9th most affected** country in the world in crypto jacking activities (2nd in Asia-Pacific Japan region).
- **Singapore Airlines** has been named the **Best airline** in the world in the 2018 **Travellers' Choice Awards** by **TripAdvisor**.
 - **Air New Zealand** stood at **2nd spot** followed by **Emirates**.
- **India** ranked **130th** in the **Economic Freedom Index 2018** (last year's rank 143).
 - Top 10: Hong Kong, Singapore, New Zealand, Switzerland, Australia, Ireland, Estonia, United Kingdom, Canada and UAE.
- According to the recently released data by the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** **India** is now the world's **sixth largest economy**, displacing **France**, with a **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** of \$2.6 trillion in 2017.
 - The top five: US, China, Japan, Germany, and UK.
- According to a recently released **World Bank** report, **India** has **19 crore adults without a bank account**, making it the world's second-largest unbanked population after **China**.
- According to recently released **Migration and Development Brief** by **World Bank**, **India** has retained **top** position as recipient of remittances with about \$69 billion in 2017.
 - Top 5: **India** - 69 billion, **China** - 64 billion, **Phillippines** - 33 billion, **Mexico** - 31 billion, **Nigeria** - 22 billion.
- **India's** ranking has dropped two spots to **138** among 180 countries in the **World Press Freedom Index 2018** released by non-government organization **Reporters without Borders**.
 - **Norway** topped the list for the second consecutive year followed by **Sweden**.

National Parties/Regional Parties

- Marking a formal split in **Bihar CM Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (United)**, rebel **Sharad Yadav's** supporters launched a new political party named **Loktantrik Janata Dal (LJD)**.
- Former India football captain **Bhaichung Bhutia** launched his political party '**Hamro Sikkim Party**'.
 - Bhutia had entered politics by joining **Trinamool Congress** in 2013 and resigned from the Mamata Banerjee-led party in February, 2018.
- A group of 50 alumni from the prestigious **Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs)** across the country have quit their jobs to form a political party titled **Bahujan Azad Party** to fight for the **rights of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes**.
 - The group first aims to contest 2020 **Bihar Assembly elections** and then **2024 Lok Sabha polls**.

General - National

- The **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** has brought in secured Digitally-signed **QR Code** on **e-Aadhaar**.
- The 99th anniversary of the **Jallianwala Bagh massacre** was observed on April 13.
- The 2nd edition of **India Mobile Congress (IMC-2018)** will be held in **New Delhi** during 25th to 27th October 2018.
 - The congress will be jointly organized by **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)** and **Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI)**.
- The 7th edition of **Home Expo India 2018** was held in **Greater Noida** on April 16.
 - Union Textiles Minister **Smriti Irani** inaugurated the three day fair.
- The **Qutub Minar** in **Delhi** was lit up with **red lights** to mark **World Haemophilia Day** on April 17.
- **India** has won **6 elections** to **United Nations Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc)** bodies, **five** of them unanimously.
- **5 Nordic nations** (Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, and Finland) have supported **India's** bid for **permanent membership** to the **UN Security Council**.
- The **Law Commission of India (LCI)** has recommended declaring **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** as a public.
 - It also recommended BCCI and its all member cricket associations to be brought under Right to Information (RTI) law regime.
- **Pension regulator Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** has made **bank account** details and **mobile number** compulsory for subscribers of the **National Pension Scheme**.
 - It has also made **Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act** and **Central Registry of Securitization Asset Reconstruction and Security Interest** mandatory for new and existing subscribers.
- The **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** has relaxed 6-decade-old **Protected Area Permit (PAP)** regime to allow foreign tourists to access border areas of **Nagaland, Mizoram and Manipur** for five years with effect from April 1, 2018.
- **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)** has granted **First License** to **Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Ltd** for **Liquid Chlorine** on all India bases as per Indian Standard (IS) 646:1986.
- **Google Arts & Culture** in partnership with **Ministry of Tourism** has unveiled 360-degree virtual reality (VR) video for global '**Incredible India**' tourism campaign.

General - International

- **Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu cancelled** an agreement with the **UN** to settle **African migrants** in western countries.
- The **United States** imposed sanctions against 24 **Russian** oligarchs and officials, including President Vladimir Putin's former son-in-law **Kirill Shamalov**.
- **Pakistan's central bank** declared that crypto-currencies were **not legal tender** in the country.
 - The **State Bank of Pakistan** told banks and other financial services providers to refuse customers seeking crypto-currency transactions.
- **China** has unveiled a **Cloud-Seeding Project** intended to force **rainfall** and snow over an area roughly three times the size of **Spain**.
 - As part of the plan, China will build combustion chambers to spray **silver iodide** towards the sky by burning solid fuel.
- **Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina** has announced that the country will be **scrapping reservation in government jobs**.
- The **Pakistan Supreme Court** disqualified corruption-accused former Prime Minister **Nawaz Sharif** from holding public office for life, as he found guilty of corruption in the Panama Papers case.
- The **United States** along with the **United Kingdom** and **France** has launched **air strikes** in **Syria**.
- The **US Treasury Department** has added **India** to a "**monitoring list**" of countries with potentially questionable foreign exchange policies, along with **China, Germany** and three other nations.
- **Afghan** President **Ashraf Ghani** has invited the **Taliban** to contest the upcoming parliamentary and **district council elections** amid attempts to end the over 16-year-long war with the militant group.
- **China** has launched a **website** for **citizens** to report names of people who attempt to bribe government or military officials as part of its crackdown on **corruption**.
- **Ending** an over 35- year **ban on cinemas**, **Saudi Arabia** launched its 1st commercial movie theatre.
 - Saudi Arabia is planning to open **350 theatres** by **2030** as part of a social program launched by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.
- **Swaziland's King Mswati III** has **changed** the **name of the country** to the '**Kingdom of e-Swatini**'.
- **Syria's Foreign Ministry** has returned the **Legion of Honor award** of **President Bashar al-Assad** which was given by **France** in the year 2001, saying he would not wear the honor of a country that was "slave" to the **US**.
 - This comes after France, the US, and the UK launched coordinated air strikes in Syria.
- The **Romanian** government has **adopted** a memorandum to shift its **embassy in Israel** from **Tel Aviv** to **Jerusalem**.
 - If approved by President Klaus Iohannis, **Romania** will become the **3rd nation** after the **US** and **Guatemala** to open an embassy in **Jerusalem**.
- **North Korean** leader **Kim Jong-un** has announced that he has **suspended all missile tests** and will shut down a nuclear test site.
 - This announcement comes as North Korea prepares for historic **talks** with **South Korea** and the **US**.
- The **Toronto District School Board** has unanimously adopted a **motion recognizing November** as '**Hindu Heritage Month**' in the city.
 - The board, which is the third-largest in North America, covers 583 schools.
- Beijing-based **China Construction Bank** has opened the country's 1st unmanned bank equipped with **robots** and machine holograms to **talk to customers**.

- The **Donald Trump administration** is planning to end allowing spouses of **H1-B visa holders** to work legally in the US.
 - This move will impact tens of thousands of **Indians**.
- **French** president **Emanuel Macron** announced that France will not leave the **2015 Iran nuclear deal** and pushed for a comprehensive agreement with **Tehran** to address the **US concerns**.
- US Defense Secretary **James Mattis** announced that the country will expand its military operation in **Syria** amid the increase in Islamic State offensives in the region.
- **North Korean** leader **Kim Jong-un** has said he will change the **country's clocks 30 minutes forward** to unify with **South Korea's time zone**.
- **Zimbabwe** has become the **2nd African nation** to **legalize** the production of **cannabis** for **medicinal** or scientific purposes.
 - Prior to its legalization, production or possession of cannabis in Zimbabwe was punishable by up to 12 years in prison.
 - **Lesotho** Becomes First African Country to Legalize Marijuana for medicinal purposes on 20th September 2017.

Books and Authors

- The book '**Mann Ki Baat: A Social Revolution on Radio**' which was released last year, is in news due to controversies.
 - **Rajesh Jain**, attributed as the **author** of this book has denied he wrote the book.
- The book of former President Pranabh Mukherjee '**The Turbulent Years: 1980-1996**', which was released in the year 2016 is in news due to controversies.
 - The **Delhi High Court** has sought a response from Mr. Mukherjee over a petition, which claims that references to the **Babri Masjid** demolition in the book hurt Hindu sentiments.
- Bollywood Actress **Katrina Kaif** is going to release her autobiography which has been tentatively titled '**Barbie Dreams**'.
- Former FBI Director **James Comey** is going to release a book titled '**A Higher Loyalty: Truth, Lies and Leadership**'.

--- x ---

TO THE POINTS: APRIL-2018

- Britain's Anthony Joshua is associated with **Boxing**.
- An E-way Bill will be required for moving goods worth over **Rs.50,000** from one state to another.
- **GSAT-6A**, India's latest communication satellite with military applications has stopped its communication with ISRO.
- Thomas Bach is the current President of **International Olympic Committee**.
- The BCCI has appointed **Ajit Singh** as the head of its Anti-Corruption Unit ahead of the 2018 IPL season.
- India becomes World's **Second** largest mobile phone producer.
- The Rupashree scheme for marriage of poor girls has been launched by the state government of **West Bengal**.
- Under Swachh Bharat Summer Internship, candidates would be required to undertake **100 Hours** of activities.
- ASPIRE or Advanced Supersonic Parachute Inflation Research Experiment is associated with **NASA**.
- Mangaluru International Airport has been named as India's cleanest airport. This is in **Karnataka**.
- India ranked **37th** in the global startup ecosystem in 2017.
- **Delhi** has become the first Indian city to upgrade to "ultra-clean" Euro-VI grade petrol and diesel from Euro-IV grade fuels.
- Santosh Trophy is associated with **Foot Ball**.
- The 114th meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) between India and Pakistan was held in **New Delhi**.
- Steven Bochco, who passed away recently, was associated with **Writing**.
- **Nepal** has launched its first "accessible" trekking trail in Pokhara city for the differently-abled and the elderly.
- Government appoints **Vineet Joshi** as first DG of National Testing Agency.
- World Autism Awareness Day was observed on **April 2**.
- **Chandra Bhushan Kumar** has been appointed as Deputy Election Commissioner.
- BABUR III, a nuclear-capable, submarine-launched missile has been tested by **Pakistan**.
- RBI drops **Axis Bank** from list of gold and silver importers.
- Government levies **10** percentage import duty on key smart phone components.
- Foundation Day of Small Industries Development Bank of India was **April 2**.
- *Fimbristylis agasthyamalaensis* is a new plant species discovered in **Western Ghats**.
- **Kerala** is associated with J.C. Daniel Award.
- **Madikizela-Mandela**, South African anti-apartheid campaigner, who passed away recently.
- **Haryana** has decided to double the monthly allowance for chowkidars (watchmen).
- **IIT Madras** is the Top Engineering College in India as per National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) Rankings 2018.
- India's Top Pharmacy College – National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research is in **Mohali**.
- Mirabai Chanu is associated to **weightlifter**.

- **PV Sindhu** leads Indian contingent at Parade of Nations at Commonwealth Games at Gold Coast, Australia.
- PM Narendra Modi and **Nepalese** PM KP Oli was jointly lay foundation stone of the 900MW Arun III hydropower project to be built in Nepal's eastern part.
- India Becomes World's **Second** Largest Producer in Crude Steel.
- India has third most vulnerable country in **Cyber Threats**.
- India sign MoU with United Arab Emirates for Technical Cooperation in **Railways**.
- **China** has largest producer of Crude Steel.
- World's first hotel in space to open in 2021, is named as **Aurora Station**.
- **US** has approved \$1.3-billion artillery sale to Saudi Arabia.
- **Mithali Raj** has become most capped player in women's ODIs.
- **Jhulan Goswami** has become third-most capped WODI player.
- Park Geun-hye is a former President of **South Korea**.
- **Qatar** has introduced national service for women for first time.
- Sanjita Chanu won gold medal at CWG in **Weightlifting**.
- **TRAI** has proposed Wi-Fi grid to bring down cost of internet by 90%.
- Union Minister **Giriraj Singh** has launched e-boats for pollution-free boating in Varanasi.
- Raj Kishore is associated in **Cinema** field.
- **Japan** has activated 1st marine unit since World War II to boost defence.
- UK has opened a naval base in **Bahrain**.
- Ragala Venkat Rahul won gold at CWG, is associated in **Weightlifting**.
- Scientists have harvested Vegetables without daylight and soil, in **Antarctic** continent.
- **Sharma Oli** is the PM of Nepal.
- World Health Day is observed on **April 07**.
- An all-encompassing coordinated and composite exercise named Gaganshakti was conducted by the **Indian Air Force** from April 8th to April 22.
- **Vladimir Putin** is the President of Russia.
- Gobardhan Yojna is launched in **Haryana**.
- Gobar - **Galvanising Organic Bio Agro Resources**.
- **Karnataka** has signed agreement with World Bank and government of India signed a US\$ 420 million project to help Small and Marginal farmers.
- **ICICI** became first Indian bank to go live on SWIFT's GPI service.
- Hormone oxytocin is also called as **Love Hormone**.
- Sahyog-Hyeoblyeog 2018: **India, South Korea** joint anti-piracy, search and rescue exercise.
- **Rajendra Singh** is the current Director General of Indian Coast Guard.
- Parker Solar Probe is also called as the **humanity's first mission** to the Sun, on July 31.
- China has unveiled a cloud-seeding project intended to force rainfall and snow over an area roughly **three times** the size of Spain.
- **Kerala** has become the first state in the country to issue guidelines for declaring a patient as brain dead.

- **Anushka Sharma** has honored with the Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award as producer.
- Manu Bhaker sets CWG record to bag gold, is associated to **Shooting**.
- **Walmiki and Malhar** are the two unknown languages discovered by University of Hyderabad.
- Ganga Hariteema Yojana is launched by **Uttar Pradesh**.
- GDP - **Gross Domestic Product**.
- **Tamil Nadu** Government launched Uzhavan app for farmers.
- Soft Drinks Sugar tax in **UK** to combat obesity and sugar related diseases.
- "Desert Tiger 5" joint military exercise of **UAE and Malaysia** countries.
- Assam Spring Festival organized at **Manas National Park**.
- **Ramnath Kovind** has been honored as the Equatorial Guinea's highest civilian honor.
- **Bidya Devi Bhandari** is the President of Nepal.
- International Conference on Human Rights is inaugurated at **Kathmandu**.
- **Biplab Kumar Deb** is the Chief Minister of Tripura.
- **Tripura** has launched Pradhanmantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY).
- Goa government launched its own app-based **Taxi** service.
- The **antibiotic** called odilorhabdins, or ODLs, are produced by symbiotic bacteria found in soil-dwelling nematode worms that colonise insects for food.
- 8th Theatre Olympics theme is **Flag of Friendship**.
- India and **Nepal** recognized the untapped potential of inland waterways for cargo movement.
- Masazo Nonaka from **Japan** was recognized as the world's oldest man at the ripe old age of 112.
- **Rishad Premji** has been appointed Nasscom Chairman for 2018-19.
- **Ramnath Kovind** became first to visited Head of State to address Parliament of Swaziland.
- International conference on 'Water, Environment & Climate Change started at **Kathmandu**.
- Heena Sidhu won gold at CMG 2018, is associated with **Shooting**.
- **Muhammed Anas Yahiya** has become the first Indian to qualify for the men's 400m final at the Commonwealth Games since Milkha Singh.
- **Ranveer singh** has been honored with the Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award in the Best Actor category.
- **US Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport** has been named as world's busiest Airport.
- Delhi airport is world's **16th** busiest airport.
- Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and Pacific held in **Indore**.
- **M Sathiyavathy** has been appointed as member of UPSC.
- **Ban Ki-moon** has been elected as Chairman of Boao Forum.
- Yaogan satellite was launched by **China**.
- Project Dhoop aim is school students to get adequate of **Vitamin D**.
- **India** will host the Asia Cup 2018 in the United Arab Emirates after a unanimous decision was taken by the Asian Cricket Council to move the tournament from India.
- **China** has been filed trade complaint against US at WTO.
- Shreyasi won India's 12th gold medal at CWG 2018, is associated with **Shooting**.

- 11th World Hindi Conference will be held at **Mauritius**.
- 1st World Hindi Conference was held at **Nagpur**.
- **Balram Bhargava** has been appointed as the Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).
- National Safe Motherhood Day was observed on **April 11**.
- The theme of 2018 National Safe Motherhood Day was **Respectful Maternity Care**.
- The **State Bank of India** announced the launch of its UK subsidiary, SBI (UK) Limited, with an initial capital commitment of 225 million pounds from its parent entity.
- **Saudi Arabia** has been opened to tourists for first time.
- **Bhanu Pratap Sharma** has been appointed as the chairman of Banks Board Bureau.
- **Sheikh Hasina** is the Prime Minister of Bangladesh.
- **Sanjiv Mehta** is the Chairman of Hindustan Unilever.
- **Mithali Raj** has become the 1st woman ever to hit 50 fifties in ODIs.
- **Rashid Khan**, bowler has become Wisden's 1st leading T20 cricketer in the world.
- Sushil Kumar won India's 14th gold at CWG 2018 in **Wrestling**.
- The RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs.3 crore on **IDBI Bank** for failing to comply with norms related to reporting bad loans.
- **Anya Shrubsole** has become the first woman to feature on the cover of Wisden Cricketers' Almanack.
- **Kidambi Srikanth** has become world no.1 badminton player.
- Rahul Aware won India's 1st gold at CWG 2018 in **Wrestling**.
- IRNSS-1I is a **Navigation satellite**.
- **Virat Kohli** has been named as the Wisden's leading cricketer.
- India got **130th** rank in the Index of Economic Freedom 2018.
- India hosts 16th International Energy Forum (IEF) Ministerial Meeting in **Delhi**.
- **Hong Kong** has been ranked as no.1 in Index of Economic Freedom 2018.
- **China** has conducted its largest naval parade in history.
- **Vinod Kanna** has been conferred with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award posthumously.
- **India and Russia** countries will lose Olympic spots due to doping.
- **Anish Bhanwala** became India's youngest CWG gold medalist.
- **Tejaswini Sawant** won India its fifth shooting gold medal at the 2018 CWG 2018, winning the women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions Finals in Gold Coast.
- According to Asian Development Bank (ADB), in 2018-2019, India's economy growth will be **7.3%**.
- 10th edition of Defence Expo held at **Tamil Nadu**.
- CM of Assam - **Sarbananda Sonowal**.
- World's Largest Solar Park will be set up in **Gujarat**.
- Protect Constitution Day was observed on **April 14**.
- President Ramnath Kovind laid foundation stone of Lusaka traffic decongestion Project in **Zambia**.
- The **India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway** is a highway under construction under India's Look East policy that will connect Moreh, India with Mae Sot, Thailand via Myanmar.

- Railways to launch 'MADAD' app for **Lodging Complaints**.
- TESS – **Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite**.
- Miloš Forman passed away at 86, is associated with **Cinema**.
- Ayushman Bharat Scheme is associated with **health and wellness centres**.
- Commonwealth Games: India retains its **Third Position** with 26 gold medals.
- The second edition of India Mobile Congress (IMC) was held in **New Delhi**.
- **Germany** has topped in FIFA Ranking.
- The Headquarters of the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation's task force for fast-tracking Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Technology will be at **New Delhi**.
- CM of Haryana - **Manohar Lal Khattar**.
- **Neeraj Chopra** became the first Indian javelin thrower to claim a gold medal.
- India Meteorological Department Headquarters is situated in **New Delhi**.
- **Rajasthan Royals**, IPL team has begun "Go Green" initiative.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** has become the second most valued bank in the country.
- **Orissa** use pigeons to communicate between police stations.
- Methodist Central Hall, Westminster is situated in **London**.
- **Dharmendra** has received Raj Kapoor Lifetime Achievement Award.
- **Prince Harry** has been appointed as Commonwealth youth ambassador.
- The biannual Army Commanders' Conference has begun in **New Delhi**.
- **Bipin Rawat** is the current Army Chief General.
- Commonwealth summit opens in **London**.
- The first health centre under the Ayushman Bharat scheme is inaugurated in **Bijapur**.
- The first MoU between Axis Bank and the Indian Army was signed in **2011**.
- **Kendrick Lamar** has become the first rapper to win the Pulitzer Prize.
- S Nihal Singh passed away at 88, is associated with **Journalist**.
- **Bangalore** is the highest paying city in India, the Randstad Insights Report 2018 has revealed.
- World Haemophilia Day was observed on **April 17**.
- ASCI – **Advertising Standards Council of India**.
- **The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** approved world's first contact lens that automatically darkens when exposed to light.
- **Suresh Prabhu** has launched digital platform for MSME Exporters.
- India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018 held in **New Delhi**.
- The **Wiesbaden Process** was initiated by Germany in 2012 to strengthen the implementation of UNSC 1540 through government-industry partnerships.
- Sampanna Ramesh Shelar has set a world record in **Swimming**.
- **Pune** is Second highest Paying city in India.
- NYT and New Yorker won Pulitzer for reporting **sexual harassment and abuse in Hollywood**.
- Bandhan Bank's Headquarters is situated in **Kolkata**.
- World Heritage Day was observed on **April 18**.

- DARPAN-PLI App is for **Indian Postal Service**.
- Former first lady **Barbara Bush** died at the age of 92. Mrs. Bush served as the country's first lady from 1989 to 1993.
- **Cate Blanchett** will lead the jury of the 71st Cannes Film Festival.
- Google is set to launch a new security layer for its mailing service Gmail. It is named as **Confidential mode**.
- **36** UNESCO approved world heritage sites are there in India.
- ASHAs (Accredited Social Health Activists) is launched by **Manmohan Singh**.
- The Centre has told the Supreme Court it is planning to amend the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act to give death penalty to those raping children under **12 years**.
- Arsene Wenger is associated with **Football**.
- **Swaziland** has changed their name of the country.
- According to World Bank, India has secured world's **2nd** largest unbanked population.
- **China** has proposed to build an economic corridor with India and Nepal.
- Village in Pakistan's Rawalpindi named after **Malala**.
- The current President of Cuba is **Miguel Mario Díaz-Canel Bermúdez**.
- Kartik Aaryan is associated with **Cinema**.
- For attract foreign students, the Union government has launched the programme is named as **Study in India**.
- According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), India is world's **Sixth** largest economy.
- Microsoft has launched its first product based on **Linux**.
- **Karan Johar** has become the first filmmaker from India who will get his wax statue at Madame Tussauds Museum.
- Vice-President inaugurates 2-day Civil Services Day event in **New Delhi**.
- 16th Federation Cup Jr National athletics championship was held in **Coimbatore**.
- World Liver Day was observed on **April 19**.
- According to TRA Brand Trust Report 2018, India's most trusted private sector bank is **ICICI**.
- Malaria Summit held in **London**.
- **Millie Bobby Brown** has become the youngest person to feature on TIME's list of 100 Most Influential People.
- BCCI Headquarters is situated in **Mumbai**.
- **110** active volcanoes are there within the 'Pacific Ring of Fire', in Japan.
- Nerses Krikorian passed away at 97, is associated with **Scientist**.
- UNASUR - **Union of South American Nation**.
- OVD - **Officially Valid Document**.
- 8th South Asian Judo Championship held in **Lalithpur**.
- National Health Mission (NHM) was launched by **Narendra Modi**.
- WHO Headquarters is situated in **Switzerland**.
- Earth Day was observed on **April 22**.
- First International SME Convention 2018 to be held in **New Delhi**.

- The Income Tax Department has confirmed that India and **Finland** have reached an agreement under the Mutual Agreement Procedure (MAP) system.
- **Sitaram Yechury** has been elected as CPI(M) General Secretary.
- **Taniya Sanyal** has been appointed as the first woman firefighter by Airports Authority of India (AAI).
- **Parag Pathak** has been named as the most promising economist under 40.
- **Shahid Kapoor** won Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award Winners 2018 for best actor.
- **Jhulan Goswami** has become the first woman cricketer to take 200 wickets in ODIs.
- **Iraq** launched air strikes against ISIS in Syria.
- **Diljit Dosanjh** won International award for most trending personality at the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival.
- IMF – **International Monetary Fund**.
- Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) scheme for **Reform and strengthen the Panchayat levels**.
- **China** has opened first unmanned bank branch with robots, holograms.
- **S Jaishankar** has been appointed as Tata Group's President of Global Corporate Affairs.
- Indian IT firm **TCS**, has joined the world's 100 most valued companies.
- **Rafael Nadal** has become the first man to win the same title 11 times.
- India women won 8th South Asian Judo Championship by beating **Nepal**.
- World Book And Copyright Day was observed on **April 23**.
- Bhimsain Khurana passed away at the age of 82, is associated with **Animation**.
- **Madras High Court** became first court in south India to introduce e-court fee payment facility.
- CSIR - **Council of Scientific & Industrial Research**.
- **Sunderban Reserve Forest** to get Ramsar site status.
- **Mario Abdo Benitez** won Paraguay Presidential Elections 2018.
- The world's first female foreign ministers' meeting will be held on September in **Canada**.
- Mosul's Grand al-Nuri Mosque is situated in **Iraq**.
- **Finland** was paid a monthly income for unemployed people in their country.
- UK-based astronomers have identified a planet, WASP-104b is called as **Hot Jupiter**.
- Rashtriya Gramin Swaraj Abhiyan scheme is for **Strengthen and promote village**.
- ISSF – **International Shooting Sport Federation**.
- Shahzar Rizvi is associated with **Shooting**.
- **Abu Zeid** won 2018 UNESCO Press Freedom Prize.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development is headed by **Maneka Sanjay Gandhi**.
- Government of India and World Bank Signs Agreement to Improve Rural Road Network in **Madhya Pradesh**.

--- x ---

CURRENT AFFAIRS: APRIL-2018
MODEL QUESTIONS

1. What is the theme of the 2018 World Health Day (WHD)?
(1) Ageing and Health (2) Universal health coverage: everyone, everywhere
(3) Good health adds life to years (4) Move for health (5) None of these
2. What is the theme of the 2018 World Liver Day (WLD)?
(1) Avoid Depression for Healthy Liver
(2) Riding New Waves in Liver Diagnosis, Staging & Treatment
(3) Join the Healthy Habits for Your Liver
(4) Listen Yourself for Your Liver
(5) None of these
3. The 2018 Ayushman Bharat Diwas has celebrated on which date in India?
(1) April 27 (2) April 29 (3) April 28 (4) April 30 (5) None of these
4. The World Creativity and Innovation Day (WCID) was observed on which date?
(1) April 22 (2) April 21 (3) April 23 (4) April 20 (5) None of these
5. Which bank has allowed depositors to withdraw cash from its Point of Sale (PoS) devices?
(1) Punjab National Bank (2) Bank of India (3) State Bank of India
(4) Bank of Baroda (5) None of these
6. The Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has signed Information Utility pact with NeSL. What does "NeSL" stands for?
(1) National E-Governance Solutions Limited
(2) National E-Governance Services Limited
(3) National E-Governance Server Limited
(4) National E-Governance sBank Limited
(5) None of these
7. Which state government has rolled out 'Rupashree Scheme' for marriage of poor girls?
(1) Tamil Nadu (2) Odisha (3) West Bengal
(4) Assam (5) None of these
8. Which state has become the first Indian state to adopt a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for determining brain death cases?
(1) Assam (2) Jharkhand (3) Odisha (4) Kerala (5) None of these
9. Which state government has launched mobile app Bi-lingual 'Uzhavan' for farmers?
(1) Andhra Pradesh (2) Telangana (3) Tamil Nadu
(4) Kerala (5) None of these
10. Which state government has launched the digital platform "Pocket Cop Project" for police force?
(1) Kerala (2) Gujarat (3) Manipur (4) Sikkim (5) None of these
11. The much-awaited river bridge 'Ib Setu' has recently opened to public in which state?
(1) Jharkhand (2) Odisha (3) West Bengal (4) Bihar (5) None of these
12. Which state is observing Khongjom Day to pay tributes to the great warriors of their state?
(1) Nagaland (2) Tripura (3) Mizoram (4) Manipur (5) None of these

13. The Digambarpur gram panchayat has recently declared as the India's best panchayat. It is located in which state?
(1) Karnataka (2) West Bengal (3) Kerala (4) Assam (5) None of these
14. Which of the following places to host Asia's largest startup ecosystem congregation "Huddle Kerala"?
(1) Kannur (2) Kovalam (3) Ernakulam (4) Kozhikode (5) None of these
15. Which country to host 2018 Boao Forum for Asia (BFA)?
(1) Japan (2) South Korea (3) China (4) Denmark (5) None of these
16. Which state is hosting the 8th Regional 3R Forum in Asia and Pacific?
(1) Uttar Pradesh (2) Maharashtra (3) Madhya Pradesh
(4) Tamil Nadu (5) None of these
17. The India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) has bagged first private contract to develop mega tourism project in Andhra Pradesh. Where is the headquarters of ITDC?
(1) New Delhi (2) Jaipur (3) Surat (4) Raipur (5) None of these
18. Which country to host the 2018 Global IT Challenge for Youth with Disabilities (GITC)?
(1) South Korea (2) China (3) India (4) Nepal (5) None of these
19. Which city is hosting the 2018 Secure India Conclave?
(1) Kanpur (2) Indore (3) Jaipur (4) New Delhi (5) None of these
20. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has granted the first license for Liquid Chlorine on All India basis. The headquarters of BIS is located in which city?
(1) Pune (2) Kanpur (3) Bhopal (4) New Delhi (5) None of these
21. The Sipat Super Thermal Power Station is located in which state?
(1) Punjab (2) Karnataka (3) Chhattisgarh (4) Assam (5) None of these
22. The joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise 'Chakravath 2018' is organized by the Indian Navy in coordination with which state government?
(1) Kerala (2) Odisha (3) Tamil Nadu (4) West Bengal (5) None of these
23. Which Indian carrier has recently become the member of the International Air Transport Association (IATA)?
(1) SpiceJet (2) Vistara (3) IndiGo (4) Air Asia (5) None of these
24. NDMA has conducted its first-ever Mock Exercise on Bio-Disasters at which city?
(1) Patna (2) Surat (3) Kochi (4) Agra (5) None of these
25. Which country to host the multi-nation counter-terrorism exercise "Peace Mission 2018"?
(1) Russia (2) India (3) China (4) Tajikistan (5) None of these
26. The Union Government has constituted a committee to frame regulations for online news portals. Who is the head of the committee?
(1) Cabinet Secretary
(2) Secretary of Information and Broadcasting
(3) Secretary of Electronics and Information Technology
(4) Secretary of Corporate Affairs
(5) None of these

27. Who will head a task force for fast-tracking roll-out of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) technology?
 (1) Jayant Sinha (2) Arun Jaitley (3) Suresh Prabhu (4) Piyush Goyal (5) None of these
28. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has inaugurated a scientific convention on the World Homoeopathy Day (WHD 2018) in which city?
 (1) Nasik (2) Udaipur (3) New Delhi (4) Raipur (5) None of these
29. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan in which district of Madhya Pradesh?
 (1) Jabalpur (2) Gwalior (3) Mandla (4) Indore (5) None of these
30. Which union ministry has launched the 2nd edition of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan?
 (1) Ministry of Home Affairs
 (2) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
 (3) Ministry of Human Resource Development
 (4) Ministry of Rural Development
 (5) None of these
31. Who will lead the Indian delegation in the 7th Moscow Conference on International Security (MCIS – 2018)?
 (1) Narendra Modi (2) Sushma Swaraj (3) Nirmala Sitharaman
 (4) Ajit Doval (5) None of these
32. Which country to host the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Mid-Term Ministerial Conference 2018?
 (1) Azerbaijan (2) India (3) Qatar (4) Israel (5) None of these
33. The conference of Lieutenant Governors and Administrators of UTs has held in which city?
 (1) Aizawl (2) New Delhi (3) Chandigarh (4) Port Blair (5) None of these
34. Which country is hosting the 29th Arab League Summit 2018?
 (1) Egypt (2) Jordan (3) Saudi Arabia (4) Morocco (5) None of these
35. Which country hosted the India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018?
 (1) Jordan (2) India (3) Sweden (4) Brazil (5) None of these
36. Which country hosted the 2018 Global Malaria Summit?
 (1) India (2) South Africa (3) Australia (4) UK (5) None of these
37. Which city hosted the National Kharif Conference 2018?
 (1) Patna (2) Kochi (3) New Delhi (4) Jhansi (5) None of these
38. Which city to host India's first-ever nationwide food archaeology conference "ArchaeoBroma"?
 (1) Mumbai (2) New Delhi (3) Indore (4) Surat (5) None of these
39. Which Indian city hosted the Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)?
 (1) Guwahati (2) Bhopal (3) New Delhi (4) Gandhinagar (5) None of these
40. The Maharashtra government has tied up with which philanthropic organization to finance tribal women's poultry company?
 (1) Tata Trusts (2) Shiv Nadar Foundation (3) Wipro
 (4) Vedanta (5) None of these

41. India has recently signed pact with which country to promote mineral exploration?
(1) Morocco (2) Germany (3) France (4) Brazil (5) None of these
42. The Government of India (GoI) has recently entered into a legal agreement with which international organization on biotech?
(1) World Bank (2) Asian Development Bank (ADB) (3) IMF
(4) New Development Bank (NDB) (5) None of these
43. Which state government has signed a MoU with the British Council to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation?
(1) Punjab (2) Kerala (3) Tamil Nadu (4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
44. Which state hosted the first meeting of NITI Forum for North East?
(1) Tripura (2) Nagaland (3) Mizoram (4) Arunachal Pradesh (5) None of these
45. Which state is hosting the 'Group of Ministers (GoM) meeting - 2018' under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways?
(1) Assam (2) MP (3) Rajasthan (4) Uttar Pradesh (5) None of these
46. Which country is hosting the meeting of the Council of foreign ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)?
(1) India (2) China (3) Russia (4) South Africa (5) None of these
47. India will tie up with which of the following countries to develop a pollution-forecast system?
(1) Japan and Australia (2) Sweden and United Kingdom
(3) South Africa and Brazil (4) United States and Finland (5) None of these
48. Which country to host the world's first-ever female foreign ministers' meeting?
(1) Canada (2) Russia (3) Brazil (4) India (5) None of these
49. The Union Cabinet has recently approved inclusion of tribal-dominated Scheduled areas of Rajasthan under which Schedule to the Constitution of India?
(1) 4th Schedule (2) 9th Schedule (3) 5th Schedule
(4) 6th Schedule (5) None of these
50. The Centre, Maharashtra Government and the World Bank have signed how much amount of project to help small and marginal's farmers in the Marathwada and Vidarbha region of the state?
(1) \$420 million (2) \$320 million (3) \$520 million
(4) \$220 million (5) None of these
51. The Government of India (GoI) has signed how much amount of loan agreement with World Bank (WB) to revitalize natural resources in Meghalaya?
(1) \$55 million (2) \$66 million (3) \$48 million (4) \$63 million (5) None of these
52. Uttarakhand will get how much amount of aid by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for infrastructure development?
(1) Rs.2,000 crore (2) Rs.2,500 crore (3) Rs.1,700 crore
(4) Rs.3,250 crore (5) None of these
53. What is the India's GDP forecast for FY20, according to latest Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2018?
(1) 7.3% (2) 7.6% (3) 7.5% (4) 7.4% (5) None of these

54. What is the India's growth rate for 2020, as per latest World Bank's "South Asia Economic Focus report"?
(1) 7.3% (2) 7.5% (3) 7.6% (4) 7.4% (5) None of these
55. ISRO has successfully launched navigation satellite IRNSS-1I into the orbit from which launch vehicle?
(1) PSLV-C41 (2) PSLV-C43 (3) PSLV-C42 (4) PSLV-C44 (5) None of these
56. FSSAI has launched which project to address Vitamin D deficiencies (VDD) amongst youngsters?
(1) Project Sun (2) Project Sky (3) Project Dhoop
(4) Project Sunlight (5) None of these
57. Which of the following cities has become the India's first city to switch from BS-IV grade fuels to BS-VI (equivalent to fuel meeting Euro-VI emission norms)?
(1) Chennai (2) Kolkata (3) Chandigarh (4) New Delhi (5) None of these
58. The Kamuthi Solar Power Project is located in which state?
(1) Karnataka (2) Tamil Nadu (3) Kerala (4) Andhra Pradesh (5) None of these
59. The world's largest solar park will come up in which Indian state?
(1) Gujarat (2) Maharashtra (3) Punjab (4) Rajasthan (5) None of these
60. Which institute has been adjudged the overall best Indian university in National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF-2018)?
(1) Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
(2) Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru
(3) AIIMS, New Delhi
(4) National Law School of India University, Bengaluru
(5) None of these
61. Which state government will introduce Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS) for undergraduate education?
(1) Kerala (2) Haryana (3) Odisha (4) Assam (5) None of these
62. India's longest elevated road "Hindon Elevated Road" has come up in which state?
(1) Karnataka (2) Madhya Pradesh (3) Rajasthan
(4) Uttar Pradesh (5) None of these
63. India's first high-speed electric locomotive has been flagged off from which state?
(1) Assam (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Maharashtra (4) Bihar (5) None of these
64. Which movie bagged the best film award at the 65th National Film Awards for 2017?
(1) Newton (2) Village Rockstar (3) Nagarkirtan
(4) Water Baby (5) None of these
65. Which movie bagged the Nargis Dutt Award for Best Film on National Integration at the 65th National Film Awards 2017?
(1) Aalorukkam (2) Ladhakh (3) Dhappa (4) Murakhiya (5) None of these
66. Which movie has won the Indira Gandhi Award For Best Debut Film of a Director at the 65th National Film Awards for 2017?
(1) Mom (2) Bhayanakam (3) Sinjar (4) Irada (5) None of these

67. The 2018 Island Tourism Festival has started in which state / Union Territory of India?
 (1) Andaman and Nicobar Islands (2) Gujarat (3) Daman and Diu
 (4) Lakshadweep (5) None of these
68. The Shirui Lily Festival 2018 was celebrated in which state?
 (1) Mizoram (2) Assam (3) Himachal Pradesh
 (4) Manipur (5) None of these
69. Who has been appointed the protem Chairman of the Lalit Kala Akademi?
 (1) C S Krishna Setty (2) M L Srivastava (3) T S Thakur
 (4) N K Khan (5) None of these
70. Rosemary DiCarlo, who has become the first woman to head UN political affairs, is belongs to which country?
 (1) United Kingdom (2) Germany (3) United States
 (4) France (5) None of these
71. Who is the newly elected president of Badminton Association of India (BAI)?
 (1) Devender Singh (2) Ajay Singhania (3) Himanta Biswa Sarma
 (4) Anbumani Ramadoss (5) None of these
72. Who is the newly elected President of Sierra Leone?
 (1) Ernest Bai Koroma (2) Samura Kamara (3) Julius Bai Kamara
 (4) Julius Maada Bio (5) None of these
73. Who has been appointed as the new Coast Guard Commander (Eastern Seaboard)?
 (1) KR Nautiyal (2) Vijay Chafekar (3) Sunny Rajput
 (4) Narendra Singh (5) None of these
74. Who has been appointed the new Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)?
 (1) Krishna S Paul (2) Soumya Swaminathan (3) Balram Bhargava
 (4) Vikram Kocheta (5) None of these
75. Who has been appointed the new Secretary of the Department of Biotechnology (DBT)?
 (1) Vijay Raghavan (2) Miland Kumar (3) Renu Swaroop
 (4) Ashutosh Sharma (5) None of these
76. Who has been elected as the new international president of Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP)?
 (1) Amrita Kaur (2) Vishnu Sadashiv Kokje (3) Neeraj Kumar
 (4) Raghava Reddy (5) None of these
77. Who has won the 2018 presidential election in Paraguay?
 (1) Juan Afara (2) Horacio Cartes (3) Mario Abdo Benítez
 (4) Efraín Alegre (5) None of these
78. Which Indian shooter has made brand ambassador for Haryana's Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign?
 (1) Apurvi Chandela (2) Ronjan Sodhi (3) Vijay Kumar
 (4) Gauri Sheoran (5) None of these
79. C V Rajendran, who passed away recently, was the famous personality from which field?
 (1) Journalism (2) Science (3) Sports (4) Film Industry (5) None of these

80. Munin Barua, the noted film-maker has passed away. He belonged to which state?
(1) Odisha (2) West Bengal (3) Manipur (4) Assam (5) None of these
81. E N Rammohan, who passed away recently, was the former director of which Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF)?
(1) Indo-Tibetan Border (2) Sashastra Seema Bal (3) Border Security Force
(4) Central Reserve Police Force (5) None of these
82. Ram Kumar, who passed recently, was associated with which field?
(1) Painting (2) Film Industry (3) Sports (4) Law (5) None of these
83. Tim Bergling, who passed away recently, was the noted dance music star of which country?
(1) Sweden (2) Australia (3) United States (4) Oman (5) None of these
84. Nabi Tajima, the world's oldest person has passed away. She belonged to which country?
(1) Japan (2) China (3) South Korea (4) Taiwan (5) None of these
85. T V R Shenoy, who passed away recently, was the veteran personality from which field?
(1) Sports (2) Journalism (3) Science (4) Film Industry (5) None of these
86. Indo-Pak 1971 war veteran Brigadier Francis Regis Campos passed away. He was associated with which Indian Armed Force?
(1) Indian Coast Guard (2) Indian Air Force (3) Indian Army
(4) Indian Navy (5) None of these
87. Who has been chosen for the prestigious J.C. Daniel Award for 2017?
(1) Satyan Anthikkad (2) Sreekumaran Thampi (3) K.G. George
(4) Adoor Gopalakrishnan (5) None of these
88. Who has been adjudged 'Sportsperson of the Year' at the Telangana Sports Journalists Association annual awards for 2017?
(1) Sania Mirza (2) Kidambi Srikanth (3) P V Sindhu
(4) Mithali Raj (5) None of these
89. Which state has bagged the 'State of the Year' Award under the 'business leader' category at the India Business Leader Awards (IBLA) event?
(1) Chhattisgarh (2) Punjab (3) Haryana
(4) Karnataka (5) None of these
90. Who will be conferred with the prestigious V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement award at the 55th Maharashtra State Marathi Film Festival?
(1) Vikram Gokhale (2) Vijay Chavhan (3) Mrinal Kulkarni
(4) Asha Parekh (5) None of these
91. Which state has been conferred the Most Film Friendly State Award for 2017 at the 65th National Film Awards?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Uttarakhand (3) Uttar Pradesh
(4) Kerala (5) None of these
92. Who has been conferred with the Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award 2018 for the Best Leading Lady (Critics Award)?
(1) Alia Bhatt (2) Anushka Sharma (3) Aditi Rao Hydari
(4) Deepika Padukone (5) None of these

93. The Facebook (FB) page of which Chief Minister has been ranked as the top ranked Facebook pages of Government bodies in India?
 (1) Uttar Pradesh (2) Rajasthan (3) Gujarat
 (4) Assam (5) None of these
94. Who has been conferred with the All India Management Association's (AIMA's) annual award for lifetime contribution to media?
 (1) Indu Jain (2) Karan Thapar (3) Palagummi Sainath
 (4) Josy Joseph (5) None of these
95. Mahmoud Abu Zeid has won the 2018 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize. He hails from which country?
 (1) Israel (2) Iraq (3) Iran (4) Egypt (5) None of these
96. Nadiya Shafi has won the 2018 Martha Farrell Award for Excellence in women's empowerment. She is video reporter from which city?
 (1) Shillong (2) Guwahati (3) Lucknow (4) Srinagar (5) None of these
97. Who has been honored with the 26th P C Chandra Puraskar 2018?
 (1) Mithun Chakravarti (2) Sonu Nigam (3) Sharmila Tagore
 (4) Asha Bhosle (5) None of these
98. Who has won the 2018 men's singles Miami Open tennis tournament?
 (1) John Isner (2) Alexander Zverev (3) Roger Federer
 (4) Kei Nishikori (5) None of these
99. Which football team has won the 72nd edition of Santosh Trophy Football tournament 2018?
 (1) Services (2) West Bengal (3) Kerala (4) Hyderabad (5) None of these
100. Who has won the 2018 women's singles Miami Open tennis tournament?
 (1) Johanna Konta (2) Sloane Stephens (3) Jelena Ostapenko
 (4) Serena Williams (5) None of these
101. Who has become the youngest Indian weightlifter to win medal at Commonwealth Games (CWG)?
 (1) Aleena Reji (2) Saraswati Rout (3) Deepak Lather
 (4) P Gururaja (5) None of these
102. India has clinched its first-ever gold in badminton mixed-team event at the 21st Commonwealth Games (CWG) by defeating which country?
 (1) China (2) Australia (3) Malaysia (4) Japan (5) None of these
103. Indian women's Table Tennis team has clinched its first-ever gold at the 21st Commonwealth Games (CWG) 2018. The team is led by whom?
 (1) Mouma Das (2) Madhurika Patkar (3) Manika Batra
 (4) Nidhi Desai (5) None of these
104. Who has become the India's youngest-ever gold medallist at the Commonwealth Games (CWG)?
 (1) Anjum Moudgil (2) Neeraj Kumar (3) Divya Kakran
 (4) Anish Bhanwala (5) None of these
105. Which Indian tennis player has won the 2018 Santaizi ATP Challenger tournament in Taipei?
 (1) Yuki Bhambri (2) Somdev Devvarman (3) Sasi Kumar Mukund
 (4) Saketh Myneni (5) None of these

106. Which football team has won the 2018 Indian Super Cup Football tournament?
(1) East Bengal FC (2) Kerala Blasters FC (3) Bengaluru FC
(4) Churchill Brothers FC (5) None of these
107. Which of the following has been declared the official mascot of the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019?
(1) Mother of Peace (2) Qiu Qiu (3) Speed Tiger
(4) Son of Dreams (5) None of these
108. Who has won the 2018 Formula One Chinese Grand Prix tournament?
(1) Carlos Sainz (2) Kimi Raikkonen (3) Daniel Ricciardo
(4) Valtteri Bottas (5) None of these
109. Which city hosted the 16th Federation Cup Junior National athletics championship 2018?
(1) Coimbatore (2) Madurai (3) Bengaluru
(4) New Delhi (5) None of these
110. Siddhant Bantia has won the Indian leg of the junior French Open wild card tournament. He belongs to which city?
(1) Patna (2) Pune (3) New Delhi
(4) Indore (5) None of these
111. Which Indian fencer has won a silver in the sabre event of the Tournoi World Cup Satellite Fencing Championship in Iceland?
(1) Nandani Magesh (2) Ruchi Trikha (3) C A Bhavani Devi
(4) Geeta Singh (5) None of these
112. Prajnesh Gunneswaran has clinched his first-ever singles tennis title on the ATP Challenger circuit. He belongs to which city?
(1) Chennai (2) New Delhi (3) Kochi
(4) Patna (5) None of these
113. According to recent data released by Indian Cellular Association (ICA), India has acquired what position in the world in producing mobile phones?
(1) 1st (2) 2nd (3) 3rd (4) 4th (5) None of these
114. What is the India's position in the world in terms of economy, as per IMF's World Economic Outlook (WEO) for April 2018?
(1) 10th (2) 6th (3) 8th (4) 11th (5) None of these
115. Which city to host the India Mobile Congress 2018?
(1) Chennai (2) Mumbai (3) Pune
(4) New Delhi (5) None of these
116. Which city to host the 7th edition of Home Expo India 2018?
(1) Bhopal (2) Pune (3) Kochi
(4) Greater Noida (5) None of these
117. Which of the following countries has been elected to crucial United Nations Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the Asia Pacific States category?
(1) India (2) Pakistan (3) China
(4) All of the above (5) None of these

118. Which country has recently become the signatory member of International Solar Alliance (ISA)?
(1) United States (2) Russia (3) Germany
(4) United Kingdom (5) None of these
119. Who authored the book "Matmagi Manipur-The first Manipuri Feature Film"?
(1) Irom Chanu Sharmila (2) M. K. Binodini Devi (3) Bobby Wahengbam
(4) Rajen Toijamba (5) None of these
120. Who is the author of the book "My Journey from Marxism-Leninism to Nehruvian Socialism"?
(1) C H Hanumantha Rao (2) Bimal Jalan (3) Amartya Sen
(4) Kaushik Basu (5) None of these

Check Your Answers: 1-2, 2-2, 3-2, 4-2, 5-3, 6-2, 7-3, 8-4, 9-3, 10-2, 11-2, 12-4, 13-2, 14-2, 15-3, 16-3, 17-1, 18-3, 19-4, 20-4, 21-3, 22-1, 23-2, 24-1, 25-1, 26-2, 27-1, 28-3, 29-3, 30-3, 31-3, 32-1, 33-4, 34-3, 35-2, 36-4, 37-3, 38-1, 39-3, 40-1, 41-1, 42-1, 43-4, 44-1, 45-1, 46-2, 47-4, 48-1, 49-3, 50-1, 51-3, 52-3, 53-2, 54-2, 55-1, 56-3, 57-4, 58-2, 59-1, 60-2, 61-2, 62-4, 63-4, 64-2, 65-3, 66-3, 67-1, 68-4, 69-2, 70-3, 71-3, 72-4, 73-1, 74-3, 75-3, 76-2, 77-3, 78-4, 79-4, 80-4, 81-3, 82-1, 83-1, 84-1, 85-2, 86-3, 87-2, 88-4, 89-1, 90-2, 91-1, 92-3, 93-1, 94-1, 95-4, 96-4, 97-4, 98-1, 99-3, 100-2, 101-3, 102-3, 103-3, 104-4, 105-1, 106-3, 107-4, 108-3, 109-1, 110-2, 111-3, 112-1, 113-2, 114-2, 115-4, 116-4, 117-4, 118-4, 119-3, 120-1.

--- x ---

THE CHENNAI SCHOOL OF BANKING